

Atlantic fury: storm clouds, seen from a Meteosat satellite yesterday lunchtime, gathering speed and heading towards Britain. The storm, with its potentially destructive winds, started just south of Newfoundland

TODAY

Reflections from Sundance



Robert Redford talks about the concerns that have stayed with him from boyhood, through early fame as the Sundance Kid and Havana, his new film SATURDAY REVIEW

Modern is as modern was

It was a joke in some quarters and a credo in others. What exactly was it, and what is it now? Bryan Appleyard launches a series on post-modernism SATURDAY REVIEW

The mind of James Baker

The Times profiles the man in charge of American foreign policy as the Gulf deadline approaches PAGE 10

Lynne Truss on television



"The message of the film was that the number of suicidal idiots circling the M25 almost defies belief." Lynne Truss, who has joined The Times as television critic, gets a close up on chaos PAGE 19

Art of the aeroplane

Roger Markman has opened the only art gallery devoted to the celebration of anything man-made that flies PAGE 14

Iraqis agree to 'last chance' talks with US

By MARTIN FLETCHER, JOHN HOLLAND AND GEORGE BROCK

IRAQ last night agreed to a last-ditch meeting with America next week to avoid war in the Gulf.

The meeting between James Baker, the secretary of state, and Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, will take place in Geneva on Wednesday. But Baghdad made clear last night in a defiant statement that it was not acceding to the meeting out of a desire to appease Washington.

With only ten days now remaining for Iraq to leave Kuwait or precipitate war, the talks with the United States will almost certainly be the final chance to avert a Middle East conflict. There is to be a meeting with the European Community the following day, which was agreed on yesterday in Luxembourg, where foreign ministers of the

Twelve heard a French proposal for peace. Last night, President Mitterrand called for a further full meeting of the United Nations before the deadline for war.

The immediate reaction from Washington to Baghdad's announcement was lively but far from ecstatic. Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said: "We made the offer in a spirit of a final attempt at peace, so it does give us some hope that they've accepted. It is an encouraging sign at least that they're willing to talk." The state department said only that it was "pleased".

The Iraqi announcement followed a meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council, chaired by President Saddam Hussein, and Mr Aziz said Baghdad had accepted President Bush's proposal "out of respect for world public opinion and for the norms and practice among countries - but not out of consideration for the American administration's stand and bad tactics".

With only six days after the Geneva meeting before the UN deadline for an Iraqi withdrawal, American intelligence estimates that Baghdad will need all that time to remove nearly half a million troops from Kuwait.

Mr Bush offered the Swiss talks as "one last attempt to go the extra mile for peace", but the proposal was widely seen in Washington as being as much an attempt to regain the diplomatic initiative abroad and the political high ground at home as to open a genuine dialogue, and American officials are playing down the prospects for an eleven-hour diplomatic breakthrough.

President Bush has said that the purpose of the talks is simply to make sure that President Saddam clearly understands that Washington is deadly serious about using force, and Mr Baker will give Mr Aziz a letter from Mr Bush which will underscore America's determination to make Iraq comply with the UN resolutions. When he made the offer on Thursday, Mr Bush emphasized that there would be "no negotiations, no compromises, no attempts at

face-saving and no rewards for aggression". Despite yesterday's development, the administration is pessimistic about the chances of averting war. Mr Aziz hoped for a solution, but was not as optimistic as it was before Christmas.

Mr Bush will meanwhile meet Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN secretary-general, at Camp David today to discuss the Gulf, and will make a six-minute radio address at noon to update the nation on diplomatic and military moves.

Les Aspin, chairman of the House armed services committee, noting that Mr Aziz was not one of the Iraqi leader's inner circle, said: "The president originally wanted Baker to meet Saddam to make sure his message got through Saddam's sycophantic advisers. Now the president is settling for a sycophantic adviser."

It was not immediately clear how many EC foreign ministers might meet Mr Aziz or what the communiqué would say about the content of the talks.

Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, proposed a seven-point plan which left the impression in some quarters that he was suggesting an allied concession and that the community should pursue peace talks whether there was an Iraqi-US meeting.

US pessimism, page 8
Baker profile, page 10
Leading article, page 11



Aziz: meeting in "respect for world public opinion"



Heseltine: influenced by Treasury warnings

Poll tax 'cushion' in doubt

By DOUGLAS BROOM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Heseltine, the environment secretary, is close to abandoning a plan to offer extra help to millions of poll tax payers from next April, which was to have been a first step to reforming the community charge.

His decision, which will be taken next week when he returns from a holiday in Kenya, will be influenced by warnings from the Treasury and his own political advisers.

Treasury ministers have made clear that the cost of maintaining British forces in the Gulf and reduced taxation revenue due to the recession will leave little scope for providing extra funds to cushion poll tax rises this year.

Mr Heseltine is also coming under strong pressure from his own political advisers to abandon interim measures which would have kept average bills below £400 a head this year.

They believe that the changes needed would be too complex to be successfully implemented before April and argue that the government will reap greater political rewards from developing a strong long-term plan.

Continued on page 22, col 7

Clarke retreats on curriculum

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE full national curriculum of all ten subjects will be taught only to children aged up to 14 and not 16 as originally intended, Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, announced yesterday.

In proposals designed to end the furious debate over the curriculum for children aged 14 to 16, Mr Clarke said that children would only be required to take mathematics, science and English at GCSE. All pupils aged 11 will also have to take courses in a modern language and technology, but not necessarily at GCSE.

At 14 children will have to take either history or geography or a course combining both. Music and art would be optional but all children would be expected to take some sort of physical exercise which could range from organised sport to aerobics, Mr Clarke said.

Rejecting the advice of the National Curriculum Council that all ten subjects should be compulsory to age 16, Mr Clarke told the North of England education conference in Leeds: "I believe we should not impose a rigid curriculum that leaves little scope for choice. By 14, young people are beginning to look at what lies beyond compulsory schooling, whether in work or further study. We must harness that sense of anticipation if every pupil is to have the chance of developing to the full."

The changes would allow pupils to take other GCSEs such as the three classics, a second language, or economics. Pupils not interested in purely academic subjects could take work-related courses in technical or business subjects, which would be examined by such bodies as the Business and Technician Education Council.

Mr Clarke said he would expect the School Examinations and Assessment Council (SEAC) to recommend ways in which the non-GCSE courses should be examined and would wait for proposals from the work-based courses from the vocational examining bodies. In a further simplification of the curriculum, Mr Clarke said he would be seeking changes in the testing of mathematics and science in the GCSE due to be introduced in 1994.

His examination advisers had told him it was impossible to adapt the GCSE in time to test all the attainment targets laid down in the curriculum: 17 for science, 14 for mathematics. He has asked the National Curriculum Council to simplify testing arrangements and at the same time has asked SEAC to make transitional arrangements in time for the 1994 GCSE examinations.

The proposals were welcomed by John Sutton, secretary of the Secondary Heads Association, who said: "I am delighted that at long last the government has listened to good advice."

Jack Straw, the shadow education secretary, said it was the second time that Mr Clarke "has had to adopt part of Labour's education policy".

● Schools that opt out of local authority control should become the mainstay of state education, Mr Clarke said yesterday.

He told the conference that he would positively encourage schools to seek grant-maintained status, which he hoped would become the norm. Recalling his time as health secretary, Mr Clarke said he believed hospitals that opted to run their own affairs would become the natural model for all patient care. "I see similar possibilities for grant-maintained status, especially for secondary schools."

Mr Farquhar has been moved to other duties and an investigation is under way.

Britain in the eye of the storm

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

BRITAIN was bracing itself last night against the wrathful storm photographed from the weather satellite, Meteosat, as it gathered in the Atlantic at noon yesterday, its diminutive target pictured on the far right.

Emergency services were on alert throughout last night as winds gusting at up to 90 mph threatened to bring structural damage to northern parts of the British Isles.

Insurance companies joined local authorities in warning people to take basic precautions after gale alerts were issued for large parts of the country and the National Rivers Authority added a warning of flooding in the northwest.

The London Weather Centre, which forecast the severest winds of the winter would last until this afternoon, also advised people to "batten down the hatches". Worst affected parts were expected to be southern Scotland, northern England, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man and north Wales.

At the time our picture was taken the storm was gathering speed and heading east-northeast at 55 knots, having started its journey in a deep.

Continued on page 22, col 4

INSIDE

Bishop angry over Gummer

The Bishop of Durham, David Jenkins, yesterday accused John Gummer, the agriculture minister, of trying to divide the Church of England just before the launch of its Decade of Evangelism, by criticising the liberalism of the church in the 1980s. Page 3

Fare rises

The annual rail fare price rises take effect tomorrow, increasing the average cost of a journey by 9.5 per cent although some fares will rise by 14.5 per cent. Page 5

Gun law

Half of the white households in South Africa now have firearms because of an upsurge in violent crime and new licences are being issued at the rate of 30 a day. Page 9

Forwards unfit

Two Sunderland forwards, Gabbadini and Davenport, will miss their team's FA Cup third round tie against Arsenal at Highbury. Page 25

Power sell

Investors are expected to have to pay a minimum of £500 for shares in the two electricity generators, National Power and PowerGen. Page 30

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Computer taken with Gulf papers

By ANDREW MCEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE government yesterday lifted a news blackout which had prevented the disclosure that a lap-top computer containing secret information on Britain's Gulf deployments had been stolen.

It was taken from a Ministry of Defence car at the same time as a briefcase holding secret documents, which was later recovered. The ministry has informed the American authorities, but would not say how important the information was, nor whether it was encoded. Security procedures are being reviewed.

News media knew of its loss by December 23, six days after the theft, but were asked not to disclose it. The ministry made it the subject of a D Notice, a form of self-censorship. The lifting of the notice did not reflect any easing of concern, but became inevitable because a national newspaper refused to continue complying with it. The information is thought to have been used by Air Vice Marshal Sir Patrick Hine, joint forces commander of Operation Granby, to brief John Major, the prime minister. The items were being taken by Wing Commander David Farquhar, Sir Patrick's personal staff officer, from Downing Street to RAF Strike Command headquarters when the theft happened.

Mr Farquhar has been moved to other duties and an investigation is under way.

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Sicily wistful about Mafia tax collectors

From PAUL BOMPARD IN ROME

IT MAY not be legal to use the Mafia to collect taxes, but as the Italian government is learning to its cost in Sicily, it is sometimes the only way to get things done properly.

Italy's finance minister has appointed a special commissioner to collect taxes in Sicily after the island's entire fiscal system ground to a halt at the end of last month.

Tax offices are shut and even the post office giro account has been closed after the consortium of banks which have collected taxes since 1985 dropped the job, having run up losses

of about £100 million. Now, even the most law-abiding Sicilian cannot pay taxes, a situation which will cost the Italian state an estimated £3 million a month.

The regional government has so far been unable to find a new bank or banks to undertake a difficult job that promises losses rather than profits because of the meagre commission paid by the state.

A peculiarity of the Italian fiscal system is that the collection of taxes is farmed out to contractors. Until 1985, Sicily's taxes were efficiently collected by a company controlled by Nino and

Ignazio Salvo, two politically well-connected cousins who were discovered, to nobody's great surprise, to have links with the Mafia. Nino is now dead and Ignazio is appealing against a three-year jail sentence for having Mafia connections.

They ran tax collecting like a private feudal system and were accused of a variety of crimes, including extortion, but whatever their sins they managed to channel a decent amount of revenue into the state coffers. When the bank consortium took over, revenue dropped by 50 per cent. After a bitter exchange with Rino Nicolosi,

the president of the Sicily region, who insisted it was his office's job to appoint a collector, Salvatore Formica, the finance minister, has appointed the Monte Dei Paschi Di Siena, a state-controlled bank based in Tuscany, as special temporary collector.

But Sicily's tax system will remain paralysed until the bureaucratic change-over is complete. And it is by no means certain that the new collector will be more efficient than the old. "The authorities must be looking back wistfully to the past," *La Repubblica* newspaper said.

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Whitehall machinery may face Major overhaul after next election



Wakeham: will the plug be pulled on energy?

By RICHARD FORD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

HAROLD Wilson liked nothing better than reshaping government departments. Edward Heath created super ministries to deal with the environment and industry. Yet in spite of 11 years at 10 Downing Street, Margaret Thatcher remained largely immune from the prime ministerial habit of tinkering with the structure of Whitehall departments.

Instead, through a series of initiatives she directed her energies to improving efficiency and encouraging the Next Steps project of turning much civil service work into free-standing agencies. Will her successor be content to leave untouched the existing departments or will the changing political priorities of the 1990s make John Major take a closer look at the structure of Whitehall? Yesterday, a senior Conservative backbench MP called for changes and at Westminster speculation continues about the future of the energy and employment departments.

David Howell, a former energy secretary and chairman of the backbench foreign affairs committee, said: "The departmental structure for the Nineties should reflect the changed role and functions of the state in the information age. It should allow ministries to function more effectively on the promotion of scientific research and environmental adaptation." Mr Howell, Conservative MP for Guildford, said the trade and industry department was an anachronism and the agriculture ministry looked poorly placed to cope with the challenges facing farming and the countryside.

Mr Major showed that he was not averse to reshuffling civil service departmental responsibilities when, in his first days in office, he switched responsibility for sport from environment to education. However, he apparently indicated to John Wakeham, the energy secretary, that there were no plans for structural changes in his department.

In spite of this assurance, the first large-scale restructuring of Whitehall is expected to focus on the energy department after the next election. The department was created in 1973 but the privatisation of gas and electricity has left it with few responsibilities apart from the coal industry, which is also a prime target to be sold off. Some academics argue that responsibility for British Coal and the rest of the department's functions could be transferred to the trade and industry department.

As political priorities alter, there have been questions at Westminster about the future of the employment department. Its responsibilities for training could be transferred to the education department, and tourism to trade and industry along with its role in overseeing safety at work. The department says, however, that any radical changes in the department's responsibilities would send the wrong political message about the government's concern for those out of work.

George Jones, of the London School of Economics, cautions against devising departmental structures according to rational theories. "You have to take into account the politicians involved in the government and the power of individual ministers." He doubted that any key changes in departmental structure would be made before the election as Mr Major would want to secure his power base within the party and, with a new mandate from the voters, would emerge stronger in relation to his cabinet colleagues.

"The way functions are allocated between government departments usually reflects the government's priorities and it is too early to say what Mr Major will decide are the priorities."

Children held in care after being taken from island

By KERRY GILL

A FAMILY of eight children aged between five and 16 have been held in care for the past two months, after they were taken from their remote island home by social workers and flown to the Scottish mainland. Their mother has not been allowed to see or speak to them since.

The children, five girls and three boys, were placed in care after allegations of sexual abuse were made by one of the children. Their mother does not know where her children are being kept, and has had to give them their Christmas presents through social workers.

Yesterday, the care order was extended for 21 days, as the circumstances surrounding the seizure of the children continued to cause anxiety and anger within the community. One parent, who has

two children at the school, said: "What do my eight and eleven-year-old children believe now, when this authority forcibly takes a friend from their classroom struggling and crying?"

Allegations of sexual abuse made by one of the girls were subsequently withdrawn. In November, a sheriff ruled that abuse had taken place, and social workers kept the children in care.

A spokesman for the social work department said: "Generally speaking, cases subject to the jurisdiction of the children's panel make it an offence to divulge details."

However, the family's lawyer confirmed that the children were flown off the island, and no information had been given as to their whereabouts. One of the children was taken into care the day before her

16th birthday. The youngest child, taken from home, had her fifth birthday yesterday.

In 1989, six of the children were taken into care after social workers believed that some had suffered abuse from their father in the past. The father no longer lives with the family. But after being assessed, the children were sent home by the children's panel, the body charged with the welfare of children in trouble, and a carer visited the house each day.

In the latest case, the girl made allegations of incest. A child psychologist examined her and said she was unable to tell fact from fiction, according to the family lawyer.

The mother, he said, was in a distressed state. "I saw her today, and she was still very, very distraught. Before Christmas she was suicidal. Now she is trying to summon up what strength she has. She has a lot of support," he said.

A friend of the family said: "This is a small community, and one is up against the establishment all the time. We found out that, in trying to examine one of the girls, who is seven, she fought so hard that they couldn't. If that isn't child abuse what is?"

Last night, the mother said: "I have no idea where they are. I write to them several times a week, but I get no reply. As far as I am concerned they could be alive or dead." Her birthday present for the girl aged five had to be inspected before being wrapped.

She said she had not been allowed to ask a local minister to visit her children. "I cannot understand that; my children have been brought up in the church to some extent. They have been members of the cubs and brownies, they have no behavioural problems and have ponies at home."



Costume piece: Anne Howells as Clairon and Thomas Allen as the Count during rehearsals of the Royal Opera's first staging of Strauss's opera *Capriccio* yesterday. The new production is by John Cox and costume design by Gianni Versace, the Italian couturier

Bogus immigrants to face tough controls

MINISTERS are considering urgently plans to impose stiffer fines on airlines bringing in illegal immigrants and a big increase in immigration staff in an attempt to deter bogus asylum-seekers (Quentin Cowdry writes).

Ministers still see the main threat as being from Third World countries, but senior government officials have said privately that they also fear that Britain will receive a flood of bogus political refugees from eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Applications for asylum from East Europeans are already rising, albeit slightly.

Peter Lloyd, the Home Office minister directly responsible for immigration, said yesterday that he was con-

cerned about the dramatic rise in asylum applications since early 1989, particularly as the proportion of genuine claims had fallen.

"Our problem, therefore, as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has stated, is how to deal fairly and expeditiously with those who are not genuine refugees," he said.

Mr Lloyd declined to discuss the proposals under consideration. They are understood to include stiffer fines against airlines which bring people into Britain with false travel documents or no documents at all; extending visa requirements; and boosting the numbers of frontline immigration officers to speed the processing of claims.

Protest over night border closures

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

LOCAL people are to gather on the Irish border in Co Fermanagh today to protest at the night closure of some cross-border roads by the army. The closures are intended to prevent IRA human-bomb attacks on military positions.

The protest by the Newtownbutler community association marks the start of a campaign by local people who say that the closures are unnecessary and cause great inconvenience. The protest comes as a delegation of American lawyers from the Helsinki Human Rights Watch group visits the area today to see the extent of the problems caused by the closures as well as conditions around army border positions.

Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, last month approved a decision to close some permanent vehicle checkpoints on border roads during the hours of darkness after human-bomb attacks on border positions near Londonderry and Newry, Co Down, in which six soldiers and a civilian were killed.

So far the hilly and wooded Fermanagh border region, a mainly Catholic area, is the only place where the new measures have been put into effect. At various times seven of the county's 10 border positions are closed.

Michael McPhillips, secretary of the community

group's organising committee, which claims to be non-political and independent, said many local people believed that all checkpoints and cratered roads in Fermanagh should be returned to normal use. "All permanent checkpoints should be lifted because they are serving no use to the security forces or the community. They are nothing but an inconvenience."

Mr McPhillips said the closures were unpredictable and carried out at varying times, making life difficult for people living near the border or travelling to work in the republic.

The army admits that the closures are inconvenient but says that soldiers remain inside the posts and can lift barriers if genuine reasons are given.



Brooke: approved closure decision

Communists try to save ailing Star

By MELINDA WATKINS, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A MEETING which could decide the future of the *Morning Star*, the strident but ailing voice of the hardline British Communist Party, is to be held tomorrow.

The daily newspaper, launched 60 years ago as the *Daily Worker*, is on the verge of withering away as the Soviet import firm which buys almost half its copies has opted to suspend its order.

The importer, Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, which cut its order at this time last year from 12,000 to 6,000 while expanding its take of *Marxism Today*, the glossy monthly tied to the more democratic Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB) and known for its "designer" or "yuppie" socialism, told *The Morning Star* that it was not allocated enough foreign currency to be able to guarantee payment.

The *Morning Star*, in permanent crisis since its circulation began a steady decline from a peak of 123,000 in 1947, stands to lose £400,000 of an annual revenue of almost £1 million with sales hovering around 8,500. Last year, after losing another £400,000, it was forced to reduce its low-paid staff from 75 to 50, and its pages from 12 to eight.

A meeting of the newspaper's management committee has been called for tomorrow, but Mary Rosser, the *Star's* chief executive,

refused to comment on what options would be discussed to keep the paper alive.

She admitted, however, that the loss of Soviet funding was serious and described the future as bleak. The *Morning Star* will not make an official statement about its official statement about its official statement until next week, but further redundancies are expected, and it may be forced to publish weekly instead of daily.

The paper's fortunes have been on the wane ever since the early 1980s when it split from the CPGB, which in 1987 abolished its rule requiring all members to "read the *Morning Star* and to help in every way the circulation of the paper".

Momentous changes in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union did not help; nor did its wholehearted commitment to such basic principles of marxism-leninism as class struggle and democratic centralism.

While its more social democratic rival, *Marxism Today*, cashed in on advertisements for the latest consumer goods, featured a wine column as well as financial advice on how not to fall into the red, and ran a mail order business selling trendy T-shirts, the *Morning Star* continued with its old-style staidness.

Euro-communism, liberalism, glasnost, perestroika or any sort of compromise — it would have none of it.

Poll of polls shows slim Tory lead

If a general election were held tomorrow the Conservatives would scrape back with a majority of eight, according to a poll of polls published yesterday (Bob Morgan writes).

Figures in the *London Evening Standard* show that only 1.3 per cent of voters separate the Conservatives from Labour. The upsurge in Tory popularity when the leadership issue arose two months ago has steadily fallen away.

There has been little shift in opinion since the last equivalent poll a month ago, but what movement there has been was to the Government's disadvantage. To last weekend Labour had been trailing badly since early November, but a Mori poll in *The Sunday Times* showed Labour four points ahead.

The combined figures are: Conservatives 43.4 per cent; Labour 42.1; Liberal Democrats 9.9; others 4.6.

The total sample of 6,003 electors was taken from surveys conducted in December by Mori, ICM, Gallup, NOP and Harris.

Ownership ban

Three Birmingham men were banned from owning dogs for 15 years and each sentenced to 200 hours community service by Solihull magistrates yesterday. Akhtar Hussain, of Moseley, Riasat Mahmood, of Small Heath, and Mohammed Riaz, of Hall Green, were convicted of assisting at a dog fight between pit bull terriers. Mahmood was also fined £150 for causing unnecessary suffering to an animal.

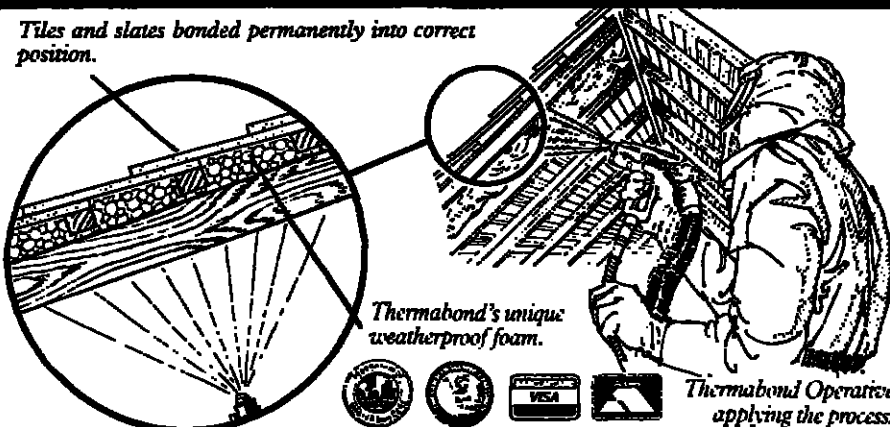
Visit refused

A request by an alleged terrorist to visit her dying father was rejected in the high court in Belfast yesterday. Mr Justice Nicholson commiserated with Marie Wright, aged 30, of Belfast, who is awaiting trial for attempted murder and possessing a bomb, but said: "The police cannot escort you to the hospital because the IRA would try to murder them there as quickly as anywhere else."

Killed by train

A man suspected of being one of a gang of thieves tampering with a rail signal died under a train near Sheffield as he was chased by police. Transport police and British Rail engineers believe that David Hyde, aged 42, from Batemore, South Yorkshire, was with a gang disturbed by officials investigating a signal failure, as they appeared to be stealing copper wire from the trackside.

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Bishop accuses Gummer of trying to split the church

By NICHOLAS WATT AND PETER VICTOR

THE Bishop of Durham, David Jenkins, yesterday accused John Gummer, the agriculture minister, of trying to divide the Church of England just before the launch of its Decade of Evangelism by criticising the liberalism of the church in the 1980s.

Dr Jenkins was reacting to Mr Gummer's article in yesterday's *Church of England Newspaper* which said the church had been dominated by liberals who wanted to minimise the importance of the faith. In what was seen as a thinly-veiled criticism of Robert Runcie, the outgoing Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr Gummer welcomed the arrival of the more orthodox George Carey to the post in April.

Dr Jenkins commented: "I object to Mr Gummer trying to drive this sort of wedge between us but I believe he will have little success. I am sure that we in the Church of England will go on supporting each other, from slightly different points of view perhaps, but rejoicing in our common

commitment to the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Dr Jenkins accused Mr Gummer, a member of the General Synod of the Church of England, of claiming to speak out for evangelism just as the whole church was embarking on its Decade of Evangelism. He dismissed the minister's comments that he would be eagerly following a more traditional stance set by Dr Carey.

Mr Gummer wrote that for Dr Carey the resurrection and the empty tomb were not mere symbols, but "glorious realities". From the virgin birth to the last judgment, orthodox Christianity had been triumphantly reaffirmed by the archbishop-designate.

"It bodes well for 1991 that we shall be led by a man whose view of the Christian faith has not been diminished by the theological minimalists nor distorted by fashion-conscious liberals," Mr Gummer wrote.

Dr Jenkins said: "Mr Gummer claims that it is by merely repeating the formula of what we are supposed to believe

that we will convince others. It is by facing real questions and demonstrating our willingness to enter into exploration of our faith that we will convince others of the truth of our conviction."

He said, however, that he agreed with Mr Gummer on a "central point", which was in welcoming Dr Carey's appointment. Dr Jenkins said: "I am looking forward to working with our new archbishop with whom, I believe, I share a common, deep commitment to putting over the faith."

Mr Gummer used Dr Carey's December "statement of faith" as the example of his views. A spokeswoman for Dr Carey, who is Bishop of Bath and Wells, said the statement had been taken out of context by a national newspaper, which had "studiously manipulated" comments made two years ago by Dr Carey to give the impression that they had been made recently.

Dr Carey stood by the comments but would not have made them recently as he was maintaining a low profile before his enthronement.

In another veiled criticism of Dr Runcie, Mr Gummer wrote that Dr Carey was unlikely to tell the government what policies it should follow. Mr Gummer said Dr Carey looked as if he would make life more uncomfortable for all politicians by making them face up to the Christian message. "His conviction religion will be much more likely to shame politicians of all parties into looking at their programmes in the light of gospel imperatives."

A spokesman for Dr Runcie said he had no comment. Dr Carey will address an ecumenical conference for "charismatic" Christians in Brighton in July.

Clifford Longley, page 10

Chichester college to take international role

THE oldest theological college in the Church of England is set to become an international centre for the training of clergy and laity (Ray Clancy writes).

The initiative between Chichester Theological College and the Anglican Institute, which is to be officially launched tomorrow, aims to provide an exchange of views between clergy from all over the world including South America, Africa and Japan.

The college, which has up to 60 full-time students at any one time, has already had visits from members of the

Indian Orthodox Church, and churches in Japan and Africa, and wants to present new ways of learning throughout the Anglican Communion.

"We have got to move the Church of England from a position of maintenance to a position of mission," said Bishop Michael Marshall, director of the institute which is a centre for evangelism in St Louis, Missouri. The programme was welcomed by Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Dr George Carey, the archbishop-designate.

Ex-pastor stole from preacher

A FORMER church pastor who gambled £11,700 he stole from a fellow preacher avoided jail yesterday, but was warned to stay away from casinos.

John Abu-Jaber stole the money from Paul Gaddes, an evangelist preacher, who thought his money was being invested on the Stock Exchange. Abu-Jaber gambled the money on roulette and blackjack at a casino.

At Southwark Crown Court, Abu-Jaber, aged 39, of Westley Close, Hendon, northwest London, was sentenced to 180 hours community service for theft. He was the former pastor of the Elim Pentecostal Church in Basildon, Essex.

Recorder Christopher Elven said Abu-Jaber was a man of previously good character, apart from his gambling addiction. "Community service is not a soft option," he said.

"As you will see in a moment, I intend to impose a fairly hefty dose of it, partly to keep you out of casinos." He said another factor that helped to keep Abu-Jaber out of jail was his effort to repay Mr Gaddes.

Mr Gaddes told the court that he first met Abu-Jaber at the church in May 1988. He said that they started chatting about dabbling in the stock market and he agreed to hand over £11,700 to Abu-Jaber in six instalments over two months. Mr Gaddes borrowed money from his mother and a bank to keep up with Abu-Jaber's demands for more cash.

Greengrocer cleared after shooting thief in the night

By ROBIN YOUNG

MAGISTRATES in Cambridge yesterday refused to convict a greengrocer who shot a raider who had burgled his shop.

Mark Bowes, aged 28, was allowed to walk free from court after the magistrates were told that he had been frightened for the safety of his pregnant wife when he saw a burglar trying to make off with his shop till at night.

After being cleared of unlawful wounding, Mr Bowes said: "I am a law-abiding citizen and I have never been in trouble with the police. I think in the particular situation I did the right thing."

Clive Fishers, for the prosecution, told magistrates that Mr Bowes and his wife Deborah, aged 28, were asleep in the flat above their shop in Cambridge, when Robert

McLellan, aged 22, broke in last July. Mr Bowes was woken up by a noise and saw McLellan trying to get away with the till across the yard. After warning him several times to stop, Mr Bowes fired



Bowes: "When it comes to it you have to defend your own"

a shotgun from an upstairs window. McLellan, who has since been jailed for the burglary, said that he was peppered with 40 pellets and needed an operation to remove them from his neck, legs and buttocks.

In a statement read in court Mr Bowes said he was concerned because his wife was pregnant and he thought that the intruder might be on drugs or one of a gang. He denied intending to hit McLellan and said he had meant to fire into the yard wall. Peter Masters, for Mr Bowes, said his client had simply wanted to scare McLellan away from his property and his wife.

Mr Bowes said afterwards: "People are getting mugged and beaten every day and when it comes down to it you have to defend your own."

Record fall in house prices

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

HOUSE prices in Britain fell by a record 10.7 per cent last year, the Nationwide Anglia Building Society reported yesterday in its end-of-year survey.

The figures showing the biggest recorded annual fall and, for the last three months and for the biggest quarterly fall (4.1 per cent) illustrated the extent of the housing slump. In real terms, allowing for inflation, house prices are about 20 per cent lower than at the end of 1989.

The Nationwide, the second

largest building society, tempered the bad news for sellers with the prediction that a springtime fall in mortgage rates would lead to a house price recovery in 1991, with prices across Britain rising by about 5 per cent by the end of the year. The revival would start in the South-East, where prices could improve by 10 per cent by the year end.

Of 13 regions analysed by the building society, three showed an annual rise in prices: the North-West by 6 per cent, Northern Ireland by

3 per cent and the northern region by 0.6 per cent. The other ten regions showed falls ranging from less than 5 per cent in Scotland and the West Midlands, to more than 15 per cent in the South-East, East Anglia, Yorkshire and Humberside.

The society's figures confirm that first-time buyers led the fall, as the prices they paid dropped by 12.7 per cent during the year, against a reduction of 7.5 per cent in the price of homes bought by experienced purchasers.

Harrods' sale beats recessionary blues

By BILL FROST

EYES ablaze with the zeal that marks the dedicated bargain hunter, a hundred or so hardy souls formed queues outside Harrods in the small hours of yesterday morning to be first inside for the beginning of the annual sale.

By 9.00am, when the doors were flung open, the number had swelled considerably. The recession had plainly not hit Knightsbridge for an army of shoppers swarmed into the store, spending an estimated £12,600 a minute.

Among the first to take home a bargain was Lindsey Carlos-Clark, aged 35, a model from Chelsea. She bought a dozen pieces of Royal Grafton china, marked down from over £300 to £158. "I came here on Thursday to map out the best route to the crockery department. I also dressed for the job because I was told that things get pretty hectic," Mrs Carlos-Clark said.

In the electrical goods department Mark Baker, aged 24, from Croydon, suffered a bitter disappointment. He saw a television set, marked down from £599 to £25, go to a rival. Mr Baker, in the sale queue since 9.30pm on Thursday, was snipped by Peter Win from Battersea, who had his hand on the set less than 30 seconds after the doors opened.

Within the first hour 50 video recorders were sold, as were an oriental carpet reduced from £8,950 to £3,500 and a wedding dress, down from £1,900 to £215.

There was much interest in the "snip of snips", an 18-carat gold necklace with vel-

low and white diamonds but the sale price of £28,870, reduced from £57,740, discouraged even the most well-heeled bargain hunters.

Mohamed Al-Fayed, the chairman of Harrods, promised to give £50,000 or 2 per cent of yesterday's takings, whichever is greater, to the Children of Chernobyl appeal. Last year the store took £6 million on the first day of the sale.

Michael Cole, media director of Harrods, said yesterday that he was confident the figure would be matched this year. "We have £100 million worth of goods in the sale. There may be a recession but people are still avidly looking for bargains," he said.



Taking a break: Tom King, the defence secretary, preparing for the slopes near Davos yesterday as Whitehall officials defended his decision to take a short Swiss skiing break while the prospect of war in the Gulf looms (Lin Jenkins writes). Mr King, on holiday with his wife Jane, is keeping in touch with his office by telephone and will be back at his desk next week.

The defence ministry said he would "remain closely in touch with developments at all times. He has obviously been working

very hard and has had a very heavy schedule. A break is important."

Mr King did not take time off to convalesce after a minor operation in London last month. He had become ill at a Nato meeting in Brussels. The ministry added that he had worked most of the summer, taking only a few days' holiday, and had been very busy in recent weeks, leaving no time to himself.

Gulf reports, page 8
Leading article, page 11

Institute of British Geographers

Sewage sludge 'harms soil for many years'

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A LONG-TERM study of the use of sewage sludge as a fertiliser has shown that it has damaging effects on the soil that can persist for thousands of years.

The results suggest that if the Prince of Wales's recent advice to spread sewage sludge on fields, rather than burning it or dumping it at sea, were followed, it would build up serious difficulties for the future, as sewage sludge contains heavy metals that remain in the soil, damaging plants and reducing productivity.

Steve McGrath, of Rothamsted Experimental Station, reported yesterday at the annual conference of the Institute of British Geographers in Sheffield on an experiment that began during the second world war, when neighbouring plots of land at Woburn were treated variously with farmyard manure, fertilisers, and sewage sludge. The applications began in 1942 and continued until 1961.

Dr McGrath has gone back to the plots to examine the effects of the different treatments. The results show the remarkable persistence of the heavy metal pollutants in the sludge - 85 per cent of them are still in the top 10in of soil - and the striking reduction in the soil's productive potential.

When red beet was planted in the soil, the yield was only half as great in the soil treated with sludge as it was in that which was treated with farmyard manure. Clover yields showed a 40 per cent drop.

Analysis of the soil revealed that most of the organic matter in the sludge had disappeared, but the metals - zinc, copper, cadmium, lead, nickel and chromium - remained. Metals remain in the soil for "almost geological lengths of time", Dr McGrath said. "It would take 35,000 years, for example, for all of the lead in the soil to disappear."

The Rothamsted scientists found that the mass of micro-organisms in the sludged soil was about half of that in the soil treated with farmyard manure. Specifically, the organisms which fix nitrogen from the air, and thus reduce the need for nitrogen fertilisers, were virtually unable to survive in the metal-contaminated soils.

An even more striking result came from examining the nodules on the roots of plants such as clover, which are able to fix their own nitrogen, a desirable trait which plant geneticists are trying to transfer to cereal crops.

Clover plants grown in the metal-contaminated soils had nodules which were smaller and incapable of fixing nitrogen. Genetic studies showed that those organisms were different from those on healthy plants.

In modifying to adjust to the contaminated soil, the organisms had lost the ability

to fix nitrogen. The scientists concluded that the sludge had poisoned the soil and eliminated the chance of growing crops without nitrogen fertilisers. Only if clean sludge could be found would it be sensible to use it as a fertiliser, Dr McGrath said.

In Britain that was unlikely, since most sewage sludge comes from large centres of population, where contamination from industry was unavoidable, and the toxic metals could not be removed from the sludge at an economic cost, Dr McGrath said. "The real solution is to prevent pollution at source." In France, "clean-up" grants were given to small factories.

Dr McGrath said that new experiments at Rothamsted would test the ability of plants to "clean up" already-contaminated soil by absorbing the metals as they grew.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Liverpool - rotten borough

"Bedlam. Strident Scouse voices shout down the 'chair', in protest at plans for 220 job cuts in the featherbedded 30,000-strong council workforce; the council's Labour leader since last May - 'class traitor' and electrician Harry Rimmer - is slumped at his table. Some of the hecklers. Liverpool Labour councillors all, seem less like tribunes of the people than slob-in-trainers."

David Selbourne on the chaos of Liverpool politics. In *The Sunday Times* tomorrow.

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No vacancies! Divorcees having a final fling

By HARVEY ELLIOTT

WHETHER they are trying to escape the recession, blotting out the fear of a Gulf war or simply reverting to old-fashioned eccentricity, more Britons appear to be behaving in an almost manic fashion when taking one of the increasingly popular short break holidays on offer this winter.

The switch from prim reserve to outrageous bonhomie is a new trait delighting Christopher Martins, a travel consultant who earns a living dreaming up novel weekend breaks and then selling the idea to hotels or resorts around the country.

"It has never been better," he said. "Not only are younger people prepared, as ever, to do something different but older people are wallowing in the recession. They love it because they can see the interest on their savings coming in faster than

ever and they want to spend it." Just as important, perhaps, is the depression now sitting over many small hotels desperate to fill rooms, especially at weekends when even the dwindling number of travelling businessmen has all but disappeared from their books.

In ever increasing numbers they are turning to Mr Martins, aged 43, a former director of tourism for York and Bournemouth who decided to go it alone after the success of his ghost-busting weekends in York and piers visits in Bournemouth.

His bank balance is now healthy from the commission on a "Bah-humbug" Christmas at a Norwich hotel for which more than 50 guests paid a lot of money for a festive season break without the trimmings, during which cards and presents were banned and it was forbidden to wish any fellow guest a merry Christmas.

Former Yuppies prepared to pay up to £1,000 a time have been flocking to a Lake District hotel to bring back the spirit of the greedy Eighties.

In Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, an hotel has been offering a Final Fling weekend for couples about to be divorced who can spend one last weekend together then share a last dinner with a solicitor of their choice, who does not have to pay. In York and Edinburgh hotels are having to turn away guests for their Spend, Spend, Spend weekends in champagne and indulge themselves over a three-hour breakfast.

There are Green weekends where guests do not eat meat and spend their time in cold bedrooms before going on long nature walks. At the other end of the scale, and just as popular, are Anti-Green weekends, spent in a Teesside hotel close to a

chemical factory and eating everything environmentalists say is bad for you.

There is even the chance of proving that romance really is dead by spending St Valentine's night in a Norwich hotel where guests are guaranteed a room overlooking a ring road or an industrial estate. If one or the other decides to bring a friend, he or she will be able to stay for free. The idea is going down well with married couples too cynical to believe that spending a few hundred pounds on a weekend in a hotel is really going to improve their lives.

"There is a new creativity about," Mr Martins said. "If there were no hotels willing to offer these breaks and no punters willing to buy them, it would not succeed. As far as I am concerned, times are good, very good. There is a new spirit of anarchy about, and I like it."

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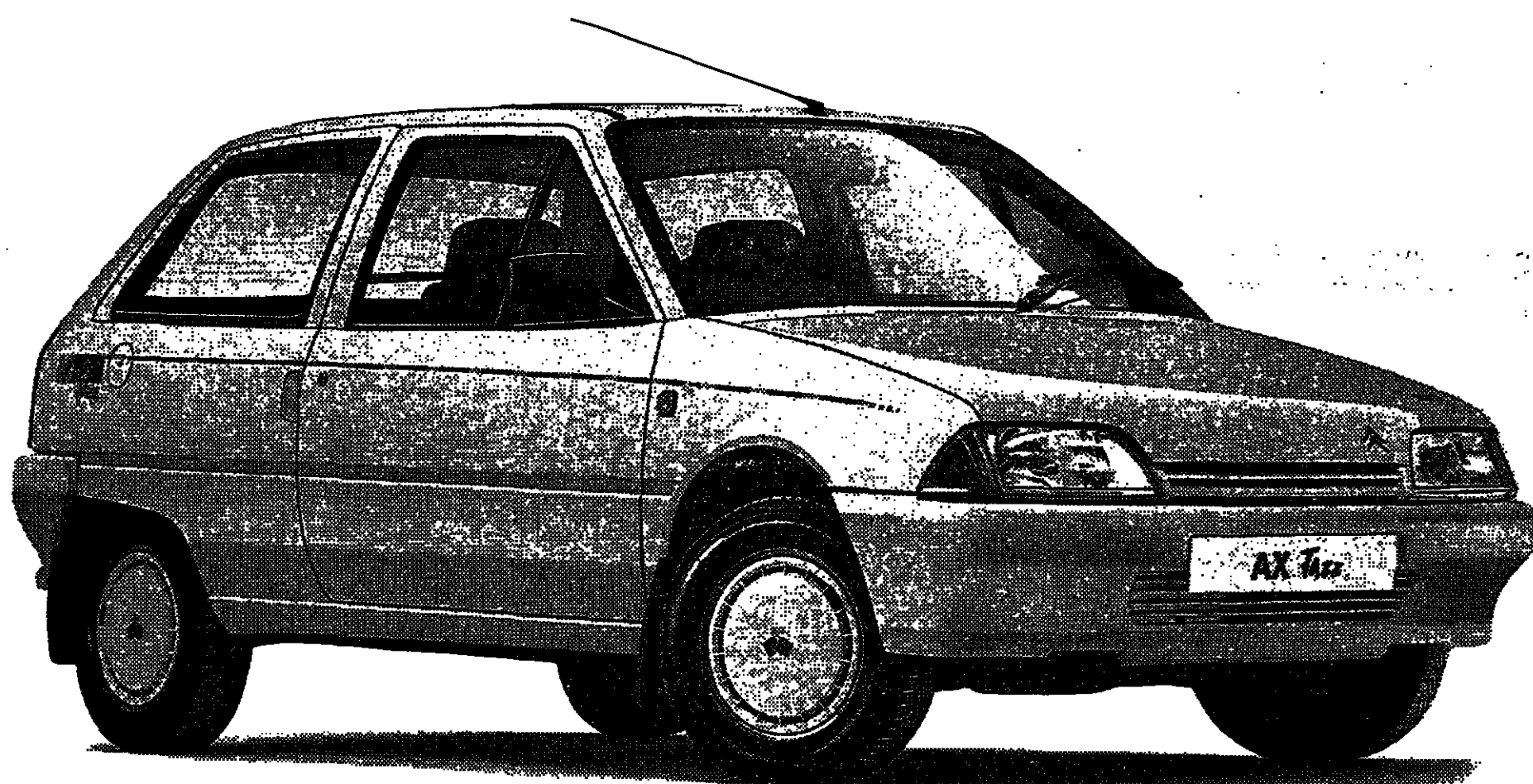
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Commuters face average 9.5% increase in train fares

As British Rail undertakes its biggest investment programme for 25 years, commuters are being asked to foot the bill by paying higher rail fares from tomorrow. Michael Dynes reports

BRITISH Rail's annual fare increases take effect tomorrow, pushing the average cost of a rail journey up by 9.5 per cent, just below the present rate of inflation, although the fares of some long-distance journeys will increase by 14.5 per cent.

The cost of a standard single from London to Bournemouth, for example, will rise to £19.80 from £17.60; the cost of a similar ticket from London to Liverpool will increase to £37.50 from £34.50; the fare from London to Leeds will rise from £35 to £37.

Fare increases above the rate of inflation, reflecting increased running costs and investment in InterCity, Network SouthEast, and Regional Railways, will become a regular feature of annual fare adjustments, according to the company.

Long-distance commuters will find themselves stretched for the third year in a row because of British Rail's determination to eliminate the fare disparity between long and short-distance commuting, which emerged in the post-war years when long-distance commuting was rare.

From tomorrow, a standard annual season ticket from Grantham to London will increase from £3,168 to £3,644. The same class of ticket from Bristol will rise from £4,028 to £4,632, while the cost of commuting from Peterborough will increase to £3,172 from £2,756.

Similar levels of fare increases will also take effect on all London Regional Transport's Underground, light rail, and bus services, in an effort to cover the cost of running the services, and make a contribution towards the cost of long-overdue modernisation programmes.

The recession, falling income from passenger receipts and higher levels of inflation than anticipated,

mean that the next round of fare increases, which will be announced in the autumn for implementation at the beginning of 1992, are likely to be significantly higher than the 1991 increases.

The decline in British Rail's income during the past two years has been particularly marked. In 1988-89, there were 763.7 million passenger journeys on the national rail network. In 1989-90, that figure had fallen to 746.4 million passenger journeys, a decline of 17.3 million.

Falling property prices have wiped out millions of pounds in income from property sales and lettings. Consequently, the company is being forced to delay a wide range of investment programmes, in the hope that the economic downturn will be short-lived. Even so, the next round of fare increases is expected to be hefty.

Critics of the fare rises, such as the Association of London Authorities, the organisation representing the capital's Labour-controlled boroughs, insists that the increases, which make London the city with the highest fares in Europe, are not justified by the level of service provided.

Successive government transport ministers have responded to such criticisms by arguing that the fare increases are part of a wider strategy of cutting subsidies, reducing operating costs, boosting productivity, shifting the real cost of running public transport onto the user, and financing the largest public transport modernisation programme for 25 years.

On those routes where rail infrastructure and rolling stock have been modernised, passengers will find themselves paying increases above the rate of inflation. Fares on some Network SouthEast routes such as the Southend and Northampton lines, where services have been improved with the introduction of Class 321 trains, will increase by up to 12.5 per cent.

Further improvements are expected on Network SouthEast, including the introduction of the first Networker trains on the Chiltern lines, and more fare increases are expected to follow. New InterCity 225s will be introduced between London, York, Newcastle, and Edinburgh in May, after the electrification of the east coast main line, and fare increases will be tailored to reflect reduced journey times and improved services.

LONDON-YORK FARES

	Actual cost of ticket*	Ticket in 1990 prices
1850	88p	£32.70
1870	79p	£25.97
1890	78p	£28.36
1914	78p	£19.84
1920	£1.37	£28.36
1930	£1.17	£26.66
1938	£1.23	£28.41
1950	£1.96	£30.45
1960	£1.97	£20.57
1970	£3.00	£21.04
1975	£5.70	£25.50
1978	£10.80	£28.10
1980	£14.50	£28.19
1985	£23.00	£31.60
1990	£35.00	£35.00

*Figures up to 1970 converted from pre-decimal currency

Jail term for former policeman

A FORMER police sergeant who drove while drunk, knocking down a woman student, was yesterday jailed for 18 months and banned from driving for six years.

Graham Wyn Jones, aged 35, of Caernarvon, Gwynedd, was told by a judge that he had "permanently shattered" the life of Danielle Williams, aged 18, also of Caernarvon. A jury at Caernarvon crown court found Jones, a policeman in London for 13 years until he retired on health grounds, guilty of reckless driving.

Jones admitted driving with excess alcohol and failing to stop after an accident. The court was told that last June, six months after the accident, Jones had been banned for a year and fined £250 at Llandudno for drink-driving.

Alan Lees, for the defence, said Jones was mindful of the "dreadful tragedy" that had occurred to Miss Williams and it would remain with him for the rest of his life.

Jones had driven on after knocking down Miss Williams, who had been studying psychology at Guildford. Miss Williams's boy friend flagged down a car to get help.

David Hale, for the prosecution, said Miss Williams had required neurosurgery and would need nursing care indefinitely. "She has comprehension but no speech. She can just about sit up and feed herself but is unable to walk."

Passing sentence, Judge Elystan-Morgan said Jones was about twice over the legal alcohol limit. Before telephoning the police an hour after the accident he had drunk whisky in an attempt to "thwart the police" and was then four times over the limit.

Children suffer for mothers

By QUENTIN COWDRY
HOME AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

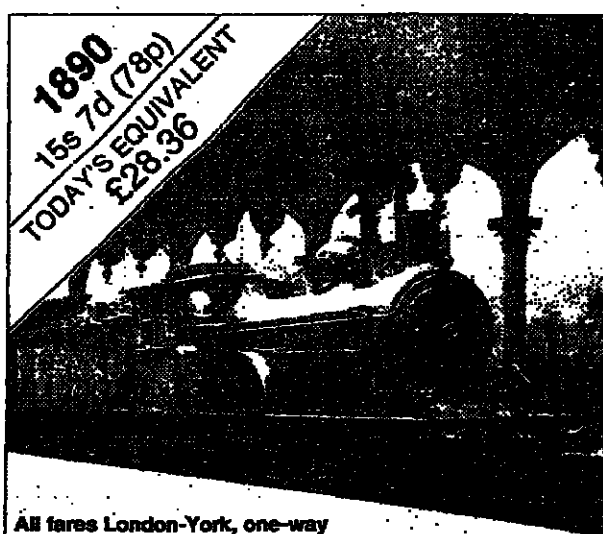
THE jailing of women is exposing about 1,500 children at any one time to the potentially devastating effects of separation from their mothers, penal reformers said yesterday.

Newly-released figures showed the number of children aged under 16 left, sometimes for many years, in the care of local authorities or fathers and other relatives, because their mothers have been imprisoned.

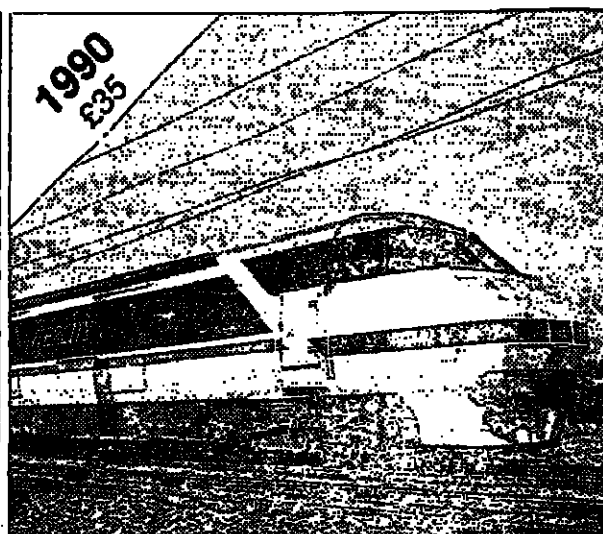
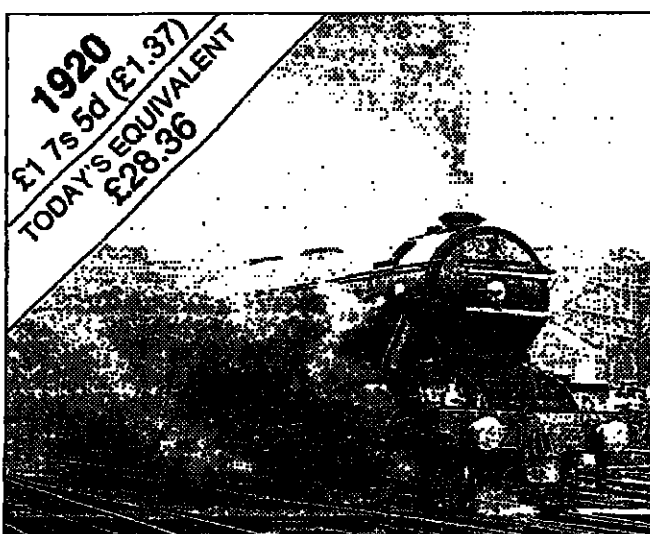
A Home Office census conducted in December 1989 found that, of the 1,239 women serving jail terms at that time, at least 600, or 48 per cent, had children. The total was 1,157 children, but penal reformers estimate that the number affected is actually around 1,500, as 18 per cent of the inmates refused to co-operate with the census.

Paul Cavadiuo, senior press officer of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said that imprisoning women often exposed children to intellectual and emotional impairment. "The devastating effects of separation can be a cause of later personality disorders, depression, instability and delinquency."

The risks were greater for under-fives. Dora Black, consultant child psychiatrist at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, London, said: "The sudden breaking of the maternal bond will leave them with a high risk of developing serious psychiatric problems, immediately and in the long term."



All fares London-York, one-way



The cost of travelling by rail has 'never been cheap'

OVER the past 141 years the price of a single rail ticket from London to York has increased from 17s 7d, the equivalent in pre-decimal currency of 88p, to a staggering £39 (Michael Dynes writes).

If allowances are made for inflation, however, the real increase in rail costs is almost negligible. Calculated in 1990 prices, the cost of the 1850 ticket was £32.70, a little over £6 less in real terms than it will be after tomorrow's fare increases.

It is only in the last ten years or so

that the real cost of a rail ticket from London to York exceeded the original 1850 cost. Between 1850 and 1914 the cost of the same ticket fell to £19.84, and did not increase in real terms to its 1850 level until the late 1980s.

If rail fares are used as a barometer of national economic conditions, one of the worst bouts of inflation took place after the first world war, when the cost of travelling from London to York increased to £28.36. Rail fares fell steadily thereafter, however, and

did not reach 1920s levels again until the late 1970s.

According to Philip Atkins, the librarian at the National Railway Museum in York: "Few people realise that rail travel has never been cheap." Fewer appreciate that the real cost of rail travel has barely altered in 141 years. Although enthusiasts often regard the 19th century as the golden age of rail travel, the journey between London and York would have taken about 4½ hours in the 1850s, compared with about two hours today. Av-

erage weekly earnings in 1850 at 77.5 pence for a 60-hour week, however, meant that travelling on the London to York line would have cost the ordinary citizen a little over a week's wages.

By 1920, average weekly earnings had increased to £4.50 for a 48-hour week, making a railway trip to York £1.37 in present prices, and £28.36 in real prices, even further beyond the reach of London's working classes, not to mention most of the middle classes as well.

Similarly, the cost of travelling

on London Underground, defined as a percentage of weekly earnings, is lower now than at any time since the second world war. According to research by Dr Stephen Glaister, a transport specialist at the London School of Economics, Underground fares have declined rapidly as a proportion of average earnings since 1980. Dr Glaister's research, published in 1989, showed that while fares had increased steadily with inflation "earnings of those in work in the South-East region have risen much faster".

TV-PM. David Frost talks to Prime Minister John Major

in his first full length TV interview since entering No. 10.

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TV-am

Wake up to the facts.

£1bn bill to save UK museums

THE government faces a £1 billion bill for essential repairs to national museums and galleries.

Tim Renton, the new arts minister, has ordered a review of the renovation needs of the 11 museums funded by the Office of Arts and Libraries (OAL), and it will reveal neglect, out-dated equipment, poor building maintenance and inadequate security systems, according to a survey by *The Times*. The research did not include the national museums sponsored by other government departments.

Mr Renton is preparing to challenge some claims. "The Tate Gallery has mentioned figures that don't really gell with any figures that we have. This is a review into renovation needs and it is axiomatic that we won't be able to do everything the museums want."

The museums are unclear about the brief the minister will give the consultants he is expected to appoint next week and who will report to him in the summer. Neil Cossons, director of the Science Museum, asked: "Does he mean bringing the backlog of years of neglect up to date, or does he mean looking forward to what the museums should be for the 21st century?"

The British Museum will have 40 per cent more space in 1993 when the British Library moves out of poorly-kept accommodation and the OAL

As museums look ahead, a *Times* survey shows renovation costs threatening to swamp the arts budget for the next decade. **Simon Tait reports**

is being asked to find almost £42 million for planned repairs. Sir David Wilson, museum director, said that unless funds were made available visitors would for decades "face the prospect of closed, stripped out, derelict galleries".

The *Times* survey of what the museums say is essential shows that the 11 will need £994.8 million to prepare for the new millennium. Most would have to be found by the government.

The OAL has announced a £189 million funding over the next three years for building and maintenance — separate from revenue funding and purchase grants — about a third of what the museums say they need. Most of the money is needed for air-conditioning, electrical circuits, new plant, heating, roofing and drains.

When the national museums were told they had to take over the care of their buildings from the Property Services Agency (PSA), Lord

Carrington, then chairman of the Victoria and Albert Museum, said: "If this was a commercial transaction, no businessman would dream of taking it on."

In April 1989, however, the museums, with one exception, were "united" from the PSA and five chairmen wrote to the prime minister demanding a more realistic funding and issued warnings of closures. In September that year, Richard Luce, the arts minister, announced an initiative to put the museums in "tip top" condition by the beginning of the new century. More money for building and maintenance was granted, but not enough for museum directors.

Are the museums' millennium schemes nightmares of grim reality or impossible dreams? Here are the details of what they say they need to do and how much it would cost. The figures include routine maintenance and running repair costs, but only items of special cost or urgency have been highlighted.

□ **British Museum.** £151.7 million to continue renovation programme and restore and adapt space vacated by the British Library in 1993; new security and safety alarm systems.

□ **National Gallery.** £74.5 million to cover backlog of unfinished PSA work; new roofs on 15 galleries and refurbishment beneath; new air-conditioning; general run-

ning costs for building enlarged by £30 million Sainsbury wing opening this year.

□ **Victoria and Albert Museum.** £200 million for rewiring, heating, drains, water supply survey, roofwork; upgrading gallery environments and redecoration; new conservation studios and curators' offices; new 20th and 21st-century galleries, exhibition space, education department and shop; complete renovation and restoration of two massive courts.

□ **Natural History Museum.** £117 million for roof repairs, running costs and plant replacement; new storage building; development of basement to provide shops, information area and new entrance.

□ **Science Museum.** £106 million for backlog of PSA work; new galleries, main ones being aeronautics and computers; recasting of railway museum after replacement of roof; new storage buildings.

□ **National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside.** £74 million for running repair costs of five museums brought together as group in 1986 and directly funded by OAL; further refurbishment of Walker Gallery; new displays for Liverpool Museum; conservation centre; museum of water-front life; new storage building; conversion of St George's Hall to museum of the classical ideal.

□ **National Portrait Gallery.** £35.4 million for air-conditioning throughout, roofwork, pointing of brickwork, loading bay and picture lift; restaurant; refurbishing Victorian galleries; converting annex buildings for offices, library, archive storage; new conservation centre.

□ **Wallace Collection.** £5.1 million for maintenance costs alone — the Wallace is smallest of the group and only one to remain with the PSA.

□ **Imperial War Museum.** £70 million for stage two of development of the 1990 Museum of the Year, providing new galleries for post-1945 period, restaurant, education centre, administration block; conversion of hangar at Duxford branch as land warfare hall; conversion of barrack block at Duxford to store film archive.

□ **National Maritime Museum.** £54 million for refurbished southeast wing to house 20th-century power and Nelson galleries; conversion of west central wing to administrative centre; refurbishment of Neptune Hall with new main entrance, lifts and shop; refurbishment of Royal Observatory with new exhibitions.

□ **Tate Gallery.** £107.1 million to cover £27 million PSA backlog; infrastructure repairs; gallery upgrading with environmental control; lighting; visitor and research facilities; storage.

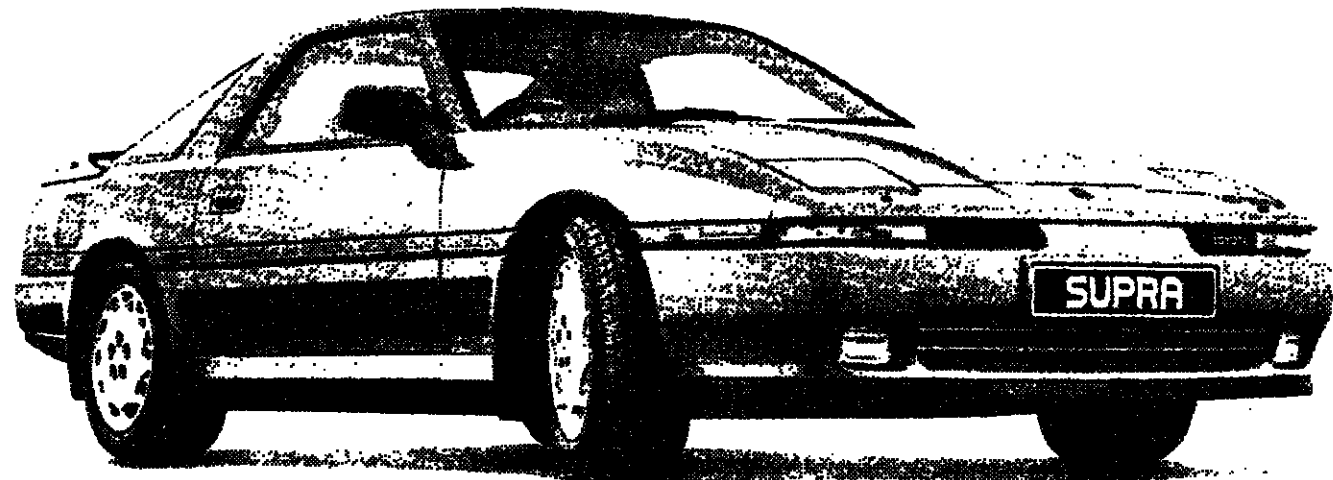


Sir Clifford Chetwood, chairman of the V&A trustee buildings committee, showing plans to students of the National Historical Building Crafts Institute, Lincoln

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TOYOTA SUPRA

British Psychological Society

Fighting stress in driving seat Writing 'no clue to personality'

By KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE man who has an argument with his wife and then gets behind the wheel of a car could be heading towards a serious accident.

Researchers have found that tension is a potential killer and a domestic dispute could affect a driver's ability to concentrate for several hours.

Dr Ian Glendon, from the applied psychology division of Aston university, Birmingham, told the annual conference of the British Psychological Society in Cardiff yesterday that many of Britain's three million company car drivers are particularly vulnerable to stress.

He interviewed 100 company drivers, who travel 20,000 miles or more each year, and found a group that was constantly battling through traffic jams in a vain effort to get to appointments on time.

Dr Glendon said that companies should test their drivers regularly to check for stress-related diseases, such as high blood pressure and heart attacks. He also called for greater training in relaxation techniques.

"Companies have to recognise that driving is a stressful activity these days and with the number of motorists increasing all the time, it is going to get worse," he said. Some companies, including ICI, British Oxygen and the Post Office, have already ordered advice leaflets written by Dr Glendon on how to avoid driver stress.

By CHRIS PARTRIDGE

HANDWRITING reveals almost nothing about the writer's personality, contrary to the beliefs of graphologists, according to new research to be presented at the conference today.

Graphologists claim they can provide a complete personality profile from a sample of handwriting, and such tests are widely used for screening job applicants, especially in other parts of Europe. The study, conducted by two psychologists, Jane Tapsell of the recruitment group Austin Knight Consulting, and Jon Cox, a research analyst at British Telecom, involved 50 applicants for management training in a big telecommunications company. They were asked to write out two specimen texts and undergo psychological assessment. The samples were then sent to two professional graphologists who had agreed to take part in the study, and also to personnel managers with no knowledge of graphology, who also provided a personality assessment simply from intuition.

The graphologists failed to provide any useful data, Mr Cox says, and, surprisingly, their assessments were only marginally better than the unskilled managers. "It is on the same level as astrology and palmistry," he says.

The study was conducted in response to pressure on personnel managers to use graphology as links with Europe become stronger. The technique is used extensively in France and Germany.

Protest trio bailed

Three men, arrested during clashes between police and protesters after a demonstration backing a general strike in Turkey, were remanded on bail until January 18 by Highbury magistrates yesterday. They were among 57 arrested in Stoke Newington, north London, on Thursday.

Twenty-five officers were hurt when a crowd of about 300 surrounded Stoke Newington police station to protest at the arrests. Two of the three were charged with violent disorder and obstructing a police officer and the third was accused of assault.

Whale autopsy

An autopsy is being carried out to find if pollution killed a 26ft whale washed up on Cefn Sidan Sands at Penbrey, Dyfed, the only Welsh beach to receive the Blue Flag award for bathing standards.

Dummy run

The army carried out a controlled explosion of a device found near an army depot at Wonston Green, near Winchester, Hampshire, on Thursday evening. The shell was filled with concrete.

Retailer fined

The W.H. Smith chain of shops was fined £890 for overcharging customers three times in two weeks at the same store. The company admitted three charges of overpricing at its Exeter store.

Robber jailed

Graham Perryman, aged 22, of Edgware, north London, who used an imitation pistol to hold up a series of banks and building societies, collecting nearly £10,000, was jailed for seven years by the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mystery death

Police in Newcastle upon Tyne are baffled by the death of a woman aged 24 found naked in a city park. The woman was found early yesterday with her clothing near by. A post-mortem could not establish the cause of death.

Welsh arrests

Two members of the Welsh Language Society were arrested yesterday in Rhos-on-Sea, Clwyd. They allegedly broke into a government building and damaged computers and files in an attempt to persuade the Welsh secretary to accept their housing proposals.

Rover jobs go

Rover has imposed 27 compulsory redundancies at its plant at Cowley, Oxford, because not enough volunteers agreed to give up their jobs to achieve the 1,100 fall in staff.

Player dies

Stephen Read, aged 22, of Storth Milnthorpe, collapsed and died during a company five-a-side soccer match, Cumbria police said.

Moscow considers strike ban as miners threaten disruption

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

SOVIET workers in several key industries, including coal mining, are threatening to take disruptive action unless they receive guarantees that their standard of living will be maintained. Their threats coincide with reports that Moscow is considering banning all strikes in an attempt to increase flagging production.

According to provisional end-of-year figures, state revenue fell last year to a level lower than in 1988, and strikes and ethnic conflicts over the past two years cost more than two billion roubles (£2 billion at official exchange rates) in lost production.

Vadim Kirichenko, the head of the state statistical committee, was quoted as saying that the main reasons for the breakdown of the economy last year were disagreements between the centre and the republics, and loss of confidence in the rouble. This, he said, had created an internal barrier to trade and encouraged barter dealing.

Regardless of whether the tentative economic agreement on Thursday between President Gorbachev and leaders of the republics brings peace

between the centre and the regions, both sides will face a wave of labour unrest caused by shortages, inflation and the risk of unemployment.

Vasili Romanov, chairman of the Russian Federation of Independent Trade Unions which was founded last year, said that it was considering "co-ordinated action" in two months if its demands were not met. They include an increase in the minimum wage from 70 to 120 roubles a month, agreement on a list of basic essential goods whose prices will be kept stable, and indexation of incomes.

Mr Romanov described the current minimum wage as "derisory" and, demonstrating that not even Boris Yeltsin is immune from workers' criticism, he accused the Russian leader of breaking promises to produce an indexation system and review the minimum wage.

The directors of coal mines in Ukraine have warned President Gorbachev that they will stop supplying coal to other parts of the country from next Thursday unless the wholesale price of coal is raised to compensate for increased retail prices of food and con-

sumer goods. In a telegram to the Soviet leader, which was reported yesterday, they gave a warning of "tensions in the workforce".

Miners are said to be seeking support from the Soviet Union's other main mining areas, the Kuzbass in the Urals and Vorkuta in the far north. Miners in all three coalfields went on strike in the summer of 1989 in an attempt to improve their working conditions and secure the right to keep more of their earnings, including hard currency, in the mining regions. While pay and provision of food in those areas are reported to have improved, miners have been given no guarantees about retaining their hard-currency earnings.

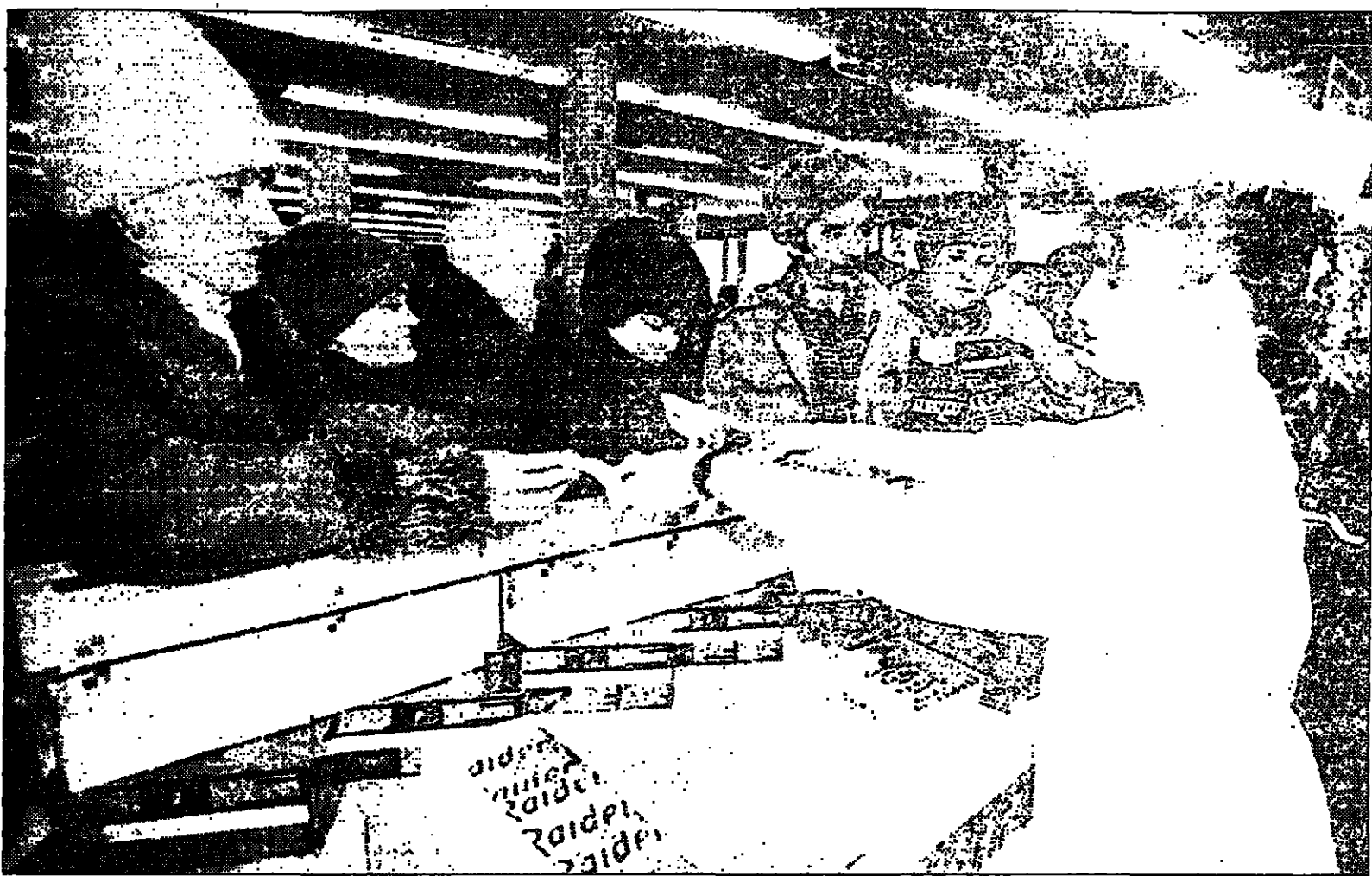
Possibly in response to the miners' threat, a group called the Union of Workers of the Ukraine issued an open letter to Ukrainian leaders condemning the "unconstructive" activity of many new groups in the republic and calling for political rallies and strikes to be banned for one year.

The call echoed ideas canvassed in recent weeks by spokesmen for the self-styled Centrist bloc in the Soviet parliament, the right-wing Soyuz movement, and Nikolai Ryzhkov, the prime minister, in his address to the Soviet parliament two weeks ago. An official report of Thursday's Council of the Federation meeting in Moscow also referred in passing to discussion of a moratorium on strikes, but gave no details.

Anticipating difficulties as industry begins the long-heralded "transition to a market economy", several areas have set up their own labour exchanges. The Ukrainian government announced yesterday that it was following the example of several city councils in setting up a state employment service to arrange placements and retraining. An official statement said the service's first task would be to assess the labour market in Ukraine.

Until recently, there were no employment services in the Soviet Union because the authorities had persisted in claiming that there was no unemployment. There was little job mobility, and most workers remained at the workplace to which they were first assigned after they had qualified.

● New order: Comecon, the economic organisation of the former communist bloc, is to be replaced by a market-based system called the Organisation for International Economic Co-operation, Tass reported yesterday. (AFP)



Short and sweet: Muscovites, used to poor supplies of even basic foodstuffs, enjoying the rare luxury of purchasing a few bars of American chocolate bars after queuing for more than two hours in sub-zero temperature outside a central Moscow shop yesterday

Drugs boycott shuts chemists

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN BONN

CHEMISTS across eastern Germany remained closed yesterday as Western pharmaceutical companies failed to deliver drugs on the second day of a delivery boycott. The blockade has led to lengthy queues and fears that emergency supplies could run out early next week.

The quarrel is the result of a clause in the German unification treaty specifying that from the beginning of the year Western companies are to sell prescription drugs in the east at less than half the price in the west.

Negotiations with the drug companies continued yesterday in a tense atmosphere after the Christian Democratic Union social affairs committee attacked the pharmaceutical industry as selfish, calling it "the robber baron of German unity". Norbert Blum, the minister for social affairs and employment, said he would urge a change of the regulation compelling drug firms to sell at a 55 per cent discount in the east.

The east German association of pharmacists reported yesterday that many of its members had closed their shops early yesterday when drugs ran out.

Supplies of insulin, antibiotics and other drugs are low, and chemists are dispensing them only on the emergency recommendation of a doctor.

"The boycott has led us into a catastrophe," said Beate Richter, of the association. She said that several chemists had been physically attacked by patients who were outraged at being turned away with their prescriptions. "Many diabetics and asthmatics are in fear of their lives," she said.

In the centre of east Berlin, only a handful of chemists remained open and many doctors dispatched their patients to west Berlin to collect prescriptions.

With wages in the east averaging only half of those in the west, health insurance contributions are low and health insurance companies face large deficits. Cutting the cost of prescription drugs was intended to ease the burden on the insurance companies.

Walesa puts economy first

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN WARSAW

THE Polish parliament approved the appointment of Jan Krzysztof Bielecki as prime minister yesterday after President Walesa urged members to avoid political disputes and help the new government tackle Poland's economic problems.

Mr Bielecki, aged 39, a Solidarity economist, received 276 votes in the Sejm, with 58 deputies voting against and 52 abstaining. His confirmation ended the impasse caused by the resignation of Tadeusz Mazowiecki and his government on December 14.

Sources close to Mr Walesa, however, said that one of his closest aides, Lech Kaczynski, broke with the president yesterday. Mr Kaczynski refused his offer to become a deputy prime minister. The sources said Mr Kaczynski was concerned that, as the only non-technocrat in Mr Bielecki's cabinet, he could become a scapegoat for political ills, including Stanislaw Tyminski, the expatriate businessman who challenged Mr Walesa for the presidency. Some 50 supporters greeted Mr

Tyminski yesterday on his return to Poland after two weeks in Canada and Peru, where he also retains citizenship. He said he would refuse any invitation by Mr Walesa to join a coalition of political

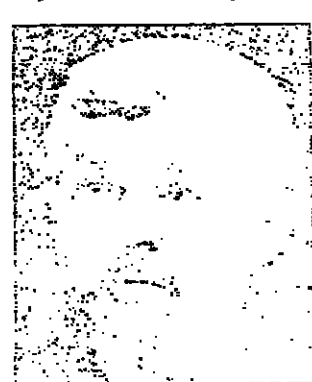
exhaustion and emotion.

Before the vote yesterday, Mr Bielecki said he would not be assuming the responsibility granted him by the president were it not for his belief in the success of the Polish reforms. The session opened with a brief address by Mr Walesa, sitting in the presidential box for the first time. He presented his candidate and urged members to work together to solve Poland's problems, including a foreign debt of \$20 billion.

He has promised to continue most of the economic policies of Leszek Baleski, a deputy prime minister who will remain in his post in the new government.

The Baleski government planned to privatise and nationalise a third of government-owned firms. But the social cost has been too high. An estimated 40 per cent of the population was unemployed and many more than one million

He will square his debt with the voters who overwhelmingly rejected it remains to be seen.



Bielecki believes in the success of Polish reforms

Army offers hope of Baltic pullout

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

GENERAL Mikhail Moiseyev, the Soviet armed forces chief, yesterday said he might withdraw some soldiers from the Baltic region, where relations between the security forces and pro-independence parliaments have deteriorated sharply.

The Tass news agency, meanwhile, rebuffed US government criticism of the recent occupation of key public buildings in Latvia and Lithuania by Moscow-based paramilitary police.

The general's undertaking, along with news that he had held a constructive meeting on Thursday with Anatolijs Gorbunovs, the Latvian president, marked an easing of the tension that had mounted in recent weeks.

The Latvian mission in Moscow said the two men had "shown willingness to understand one another" over key issues. Ilmar Bishers, the Latvian deputy prime minister, said he was now more hopeful about finding a common language with the military.

General Moiseyev told Tass: "Not a single additional soldier will be dispatched to

the Baltic republics in the future. We may even consider reducing the military contingent here."

He had promised to provide the Latvian government with more information about troop deployments and exercises. A working group would be set up to bring together Latvian legislators and officials of the Soviet defence ministry.

The Soviet garrison in Riga, viewed as an occupation force and as also a drain on the economy by supporters of independence, has accused the local government of restricting military access to housing, education and health care.

The Latvian capital has been hit by a series of small but highly professional explosions, blamed by nationalists on provocateurs from the security forces.

Tass expressed "bewilderment and indignation" over American criticism that the seizure of Riga's newspaper printing centre by paramilitary units was a provocative act. It said that the attack amounted to interference in a delicate situation.

Alia vow on market policies

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ALBANIA'S ruling communists have pledged "non-stop" democratic reform and a switch to a market-style economy in a manifesto for the country's first multiparty elections next month.

The manifesto also promised "loyal dialogue" with Albania's first opposition party, founded last month after President Alia swung the small Balkan state behind the move to pluralism in the rest of Eastern Europe. On the economy, Europe's poorest, it pledged to replace rigid central control "with the mechanisms

of a market economy" involving mixed public and private ownership.

The elections to the 250-seat People's Assembly on February 10 will pit Mr Alia's party against an independent opposition for the first time in 46 years of stalinist rule. The new Democratic Party, created on December 12 amid student unrest, has complained that the vote will not be fair. Mr Alia has rejected its request for a delay to give it more time to organise.

Mr Alia's pledge of reform has apparently persuaded

some Albanian refugees to return to the country. More than 80 went back voluntarily yesterday after fleeing to Greece and asking for political asylum. They included soldiers and a border guard.

The European Community, meanwhile, said it was giving emergency aid worth about \$350,000 to Albanian refugees who have fled to Greece. A community statement said that the aid, given in response to a request from the Greek government, would buy urgent first aid supplies for some 5,000 refugees.

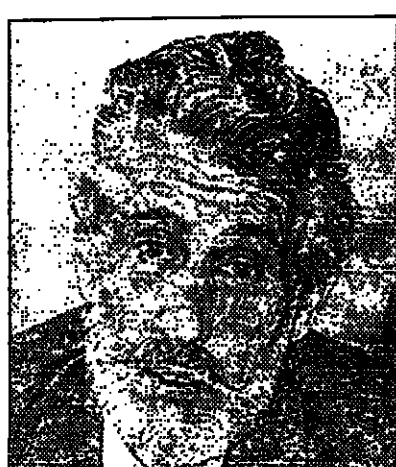
Russian nobility musters for duty

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

MUCH is expected of those to whom much has been given. British aristocrats are taught at Eton; and their Russian counterparts, resurfacing in Moscow after a 73-year break, are now proclaiming that nobility's obligations weigh just as heavily on those from whom so much has been taken away.

That, at least, was the thrust of yesterday's press conference given by the Union of Descendants of the Russian Aristocracy, at which the six-month-old society unveiled its plans to make a contribution to the homeland's cultural rebirth.

A man who introduced himself in courtly tones as "your humble servant, Mr Vadim Lopukhin", expert adviser to the union, took pains to emphasise that its activities would be charitable and cultural; it was not a party and had no political aims. But the line can be fine. While the proletarian form of class struggle might be out of fashion, the union might be out of fashion, the union intended to pursue "historical justice



Lopukhin: seeking to set record straight on aristocrats' role

on behalf of a class" by setting the facts straight on the nobility's role in pre-revolutionary Russia.

Our humble servant, nevertheless, looked uncomfortable when the union's president, a painter with a

trim white beard, called Prince Andrei Golitsyn, affirmed his personal belief that Russia had been better served by monarchy than other systems.

The society's immediate plans include the opening of an exhibition on the Russian army in 1812 next Tuesday, coinciding with the Russian Orthodox celebration of Christmas, a seminar on the aristocracy's historical role, a religious service, and a concert. These events are meant to launch a ten-month cultural festival. The union has about 1,500 full and candidate members.

Many Russian aristocrats in exile will, no doubt, be suspicious of the union because it functions on Bolshevik-controlled soil. But Prince Andrei said young scions of the White nobility were returning to Russia in ever greater numbers to trace their roots.

Declaring that "the motherland has no good or bad children, she laments for all her dead", the union appealed for help with building a monument of "reconciliation" commemorating the dead of both sides in the Civil War.

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Replay of an old power tussle in stand-off on Capitol Hill

THE corridors of Capitol Hill are filled with politicians talking about their prerogatives. As long as the critics of President Bush's Gulf policy keep their noses in history books and legal tomes, the White House will be happy. Even if, as seems likely, there is a hostile debate in the next few days, the administration is growing in confidence that any damage can be contained.

Congress, like all previous congresses, wants to be part of the decision-making in a matter of war or peace. As its leaders have made clear, it would like to stay the president's hand against Iraq and give sanctions more time to work. Its practical power to force its wishes is, however, limited.

For 200 years, the executive and legislative branches of govern-

ment have skirmished about war powers, which, like so much in the American constitution, are artfully divided between the president and Congress. President Bush is commander-in-chief of US forces and has constitutional responsibility for national security. Congress is charged with the responsibility to "declare war" and to "raise and support armies".

Changes in the nature of warfare, and a variety of precedents favouring both sides, have done nothing to clarify the matter. Congress has five times accepted a presidential invitation to declare war. On around 200 occasions, presidents — from Jefferson to Reagan — have deployed troops without congressional approval. The Vietnam war, which began with a limited congressional

For 200 years, the American executive and legislative arms have fought over war powers, artfully divided between president and Congress, Peter Stothard writes

resolution for the defence of US forces in the Gulf of Tonkin and ended with a massive general deployment and defeat, created conditions for the War Powers Act of 1973, which attempted to increase congressional control. But that act, which allows the president only 90 days of deployment without a congressional declaration of war and gives Congress powers to withdraw US forces from the field, has never been accepted by a president as a valid constitutional document.

Some parts of it have been rejected by the Supreme Court and others lie in doubt and dispute.

The act was passed in 1973 because then President Nixon was terminally weakened by Watergate. According to the pragmatic standards of American politics, that weakens its force. The real congressional weapons are refusal to grant money and presidential impeachment. Both have been mentioned this week.

The president is known to be afraid today of a congressional

debate, which would reveal a divided country. His motives are less that this would tie his hands in military terms, than that it would send the wrong signals to President Saddam Hussein about the seriousness of US intent. His ideal outcome of the current congressional chuntering would be a quick debate which ended in an endorsement of the United Nations position on using force. Since he cannot have that, he would rather have no action in Congress at all.

Some White House advisers believe, however, that the president has less to worry about than he thinks. President Saddam knows well the extent of congressional opposition, they say. Therefore, there is real advantage in putting Democrat leaders under

pressure. The closer the deadline comes, the more difficult it will be for a congressman to restrict military options.

From a legalistic point of view the weakest element of the White House case is the lack of any clear emergency in the Gulf that would justify the quick and unencumbered use of presidential power. The argument for executive authority has always been enhanced by, for example, the need for speed in countering a modern missile-born nuclear threat. With two armies sitting in the desert in relatively old-fashioned conditions, the opportunity for consultation with Congress is, by this interpretation, greater than in other recent deployments, in Grenada or Lebanon.

The president has countered

this argument, both by holding numerous informal consultations with congressional leaders and by stressing that there are political and military aspects of Operation Desert Shield which do demand the same speed and secrecy as a superpower confrontation. In the final analysis, however, the verdict on the president will not depend on whether his actions best fit with legal precedent for a conflict which, like most conflicts, has no exact historical parallel. It will depend on whether the action is successful.

No one believes that there is American heart for a long war. If the fighting stretches out, George Bush's presidency will be doomed whatever the lawyers say.

Leading article, page 11

Most Americans see fighting as inevitable despite Baker talks

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

WITHIN the Bush administration and among the American people, the belief is growing that war with Iraq cannot be averted. This pessimism will be only moderately alleviated by Baghdad's agreement yesterday to a meeting between James Baker, the American Secretary of State, and Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, in Geneva next week.

Polls also indicate an increase in public support for swift military action if Iraq does not leave Kuwait within the next ten days, though there is no such support in Congress, where most Democrats believe sanctions should be given much more time to work.

In a television interview on Thursday night, Mr Baker said he still hoped for a peaceful solution but was "frankly not as optimistic about that possibility now as I was before Christmas". Force would "in all probability" be used if Iraq failed to comply with UN resolu-

tions. President Bush's offer of talks in Switzerland was seen by many here less as a genuine attempt to begin dialogue than as a move to pre-empt European and other "freelance" diplomatic initiatives which could lead to partial solutions, and to persuade Congress and the American people that he was exhausting all peaceful options before going to war with the Iraqis.

Both sides seem to want the meeting more to trump each other than to talk to the other," a *New York Times* commentary said. The administration, which insists the talks will not lead to negotiation or compromise of any sort, was "convinced that nothing's going to happen" if they took place, said Robert Dole, the Senate Republican minority leader. Les Aspin, chairman of the House armed services committee, was among those who pointed out that Mr Bush's offer of talks with

Mr Aziz, who is not one of President Saddam Hussein's inner circle, was far removed from his original plan for a face-to-face encounter with the Iraqi leader. Mr Aspin said: "The president originally wanted Baker to meet with Saddam to make sure his message (of US resolve) got through Saddam's sycophantic advisers. Now the president is settling for a sycophantic adviser."

A new ABC/Washington Post poll shows 65 per cent support for war if Iraq does not leave Kuwait by January 15, up ten points since December 18. Of that 65 per cent, a quarter said force should be used immediately and 57 per cent within a month.

Exactly half believed direct talks would fail to produce a peaceful solution, compared with 43 per cent who thought they would. Seventy-seven per cent, the highest recorded figure, thought America was heading for war, up 16 points since a poll on December 9, just after Iraq announced the release of Western hostages.

A USA Today poll on Thursday showed that 57 per cent support military action after January 15 and that 59 per cent see war as likely, up from 46 per cent at the beginning of last month. Many congressmen, by contrast, returned to Washington this week saying their constituents were overwhelmingly opposed to military intervention.

According to the Pentagon, there are now 1.1 million troops lined up against each other in the Gulf — 245,000 allied and 335,000 American servicemen and 530,000 Iraqis in and around Kuwait.

Vice-President Dan Quayle said American intelligence estimated that Iraq would need at least six days to withdraw completely from Kuwait, meaning that it will not be able to comply with the UN resolutions unless it starts to pull back next Wednesday. The administration says it sees no evidence that Iraqi forces are doing anything except strengthening their defences.

As preparations for war continue, the US Air Force has moved large numbers of its most effective jets to a new Saudi Arabian air base hundreds of miles closer to the Kuwaiti border.

Baker profile, page 10



Burning anger: a Palestinian woman, with her baby and another small child, dashing past burning tyres at the entrance to the Jalazoun refugee camp in the West Bank yesterday. The fires were started by Palestinian youths during a visit of a UN official to the camp

Environment disaster visions 'are a myth'

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

VISIONS of a global environmental catastrophe sparked by fires in the Kuwaiti oilfields are myth, John Wakeham, the energy secretary, said yesterday.

In a move designed to dispel international and backbench disquiet over the ecological impact of a war in the Gulf, Mr Wakeham has written to John Hannan, MP, the energy committee chairman, to argue that there is little evidence for recent alarmist claims.

"Some recent reports have suggested that if Iraq was to set light to the oil wells in Kuwait this would have serious consequences for the global environment," he said. "In my view, these have been misleading."

Mr Wakeham said that there was no evidence that Iraq wanted to sabotage the Kuwait oil wells in this way, "since they stand to gain no advantage".

Even if the Iraqis did ignite the fields, only the oil flowing out of the wells would burn.

"There is no way in which Kuwait's huge reserves under-

ground could be ignited," said Mr Wakeham, who visited the region on a fact-finding mission in the autumn.

He said that at most only a few per cent of the world's oil production, "most of which is burnt in the atmosphere anyway", would be lost.

Although he admitted that the fires would be "unpleasant, harmful and wasteful" and might take more than six months to put out, Mr Wakeham said suggestions of a global environmental disaster were entirely misplaced.

A spokesman for the energy department said that Mr Wakeham's comments had been based on information which had been supplied by the International Energy Agency.

Kuwait produces two million barrels of oil a day. Only a fraction comes to the surface by natural pressure, with the remainder brought to the surface by mechanical and other artificial means which would be shut down by explosions and fires.

Jerusalem mayor and intifada leader dare to open dialogue

From RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

FOR many Israelis, Faisal Husseini is the mastermind behind the intifada: a Palestine Liberation Organisation agent and a terrorist who deserves to be imprisoned or deported. For Palestinians, Mr Husseini is a moderate from one of Jerusalem's leading Arab families who seeks dialogue with Israel and whose periods in prison (most recently after the Temple Mount killings last October) are unjust.

Israeli right-wingers yesterday attacked Teddy Kollek, the liberal-minded mayor of Jerusalem since 1965, for accepting to meet Mr Husseini for the first time to discuss the contentious issue of Jerusalem. In their dialogue, published yesterday in the Jerusalem weekly *Kol Ha'ir*, Mr Kollek and Mr Husseini said they had thought hard before meeting. Radicals on both sides would accuse them of being traitors.

Jerusalem has been reunited since the 1967 war and the site of the Mandelbaum Gate, the former crossing point, has been obliterated by a new road. But the intifada has redivided it with many Israelis afraid to risk stones and petrol bombs by crossing into east Jerusalem.

In the end, the Kollek-Husseini dialogue reached an impasse. But it could be a possible basis for future talks. Mr Husseini, emphasising that he was not "negotiating", suggested a unified Jerusalem as "two capitals with one umbrella municipality." What was needed, he said, was a unique

system which would "give us both the feeling that this is my city and yours." There would be joint municipal committees and police.

Mr Kollek agreed there should be a "certain autonomy" for the Arabs of Jerusalem. But he ruled



Kollek: risked the wrath of right wingers

out any compromise on the unity of the city, declaring "It is absolute for us that Jerusalem is one." Two capitals would mean a frontier and different laws in the two halves, "and in no time the city would be divided as it was before." Except for the Crusader period, Mr Kollek said, Jerusalem had been the capital of the Jews. Why not take a full part in the running of Jerusalem by building better libraries and sewage systems rather than throwing stones

and knifing Jews, Mr Kollek demanded. Because, Mr Husseini replied, the unification of Jerusalem was artificial and the Arab and Jewish communities were unequal. To take part in elections or social services would be "to accept the idea of being a minority." In the end, Mr Husseini told Mr Kollek, the real problem was not the municipality but the Israeli government.

Palestinians, Mr Husseini said, live in circumstances which filled them with bitterness. "Imagine how hard it is for a simple Palestinian who spends his life building a house for his family. One of the family, perhaps a boy of 16, throws a stone or a bomb, is arrested or killed, and the whole house is demolished by the army. An Israeli can kill a Palestinian and spend only three months in prison before being freed and treated as a hero. The problem, Mr Kollek, is that you are the mayor of a capital of a state which is the state of only part of its citizens."

Yesterday Palestinian radicals attacked Mr Husseini for meeting Mr Kollek, while Eliakim Hayetzi, an MP for the far-right Tehiya party, accused Mr Kollek of treason for meeting "a known agent of Arafat".

Arab shot: An Arab bus driver who collided yesterday with a car near Gaza, killing an Israeli girl, aged 19, was shot dead by Israelis who gave chase. The bus driver, returning to Gaza after dropping off Arab workers in Israel, had rammed Israeli cars.

Iraq passes budget with war in mind

Baghdad — The Iraqi parliament approved a 1991 budget based on meeting its military needs and the assumption that the United Nations economic blockade would stand for the rest of the year.

Baghdad's official newspapers disclosed yesterday that the budget had been passed, but with the threat of imminent war in the Gulf they provided even less information than usual on government spending plans.

Saadoun Hammadi, a deputy prime minister and head of the economic committee, told parliament that the budget was "basically set to consolidate the combat potential of the armed forces". (Reuters)

Volunteer dies

An army volunteer collapsed and died during a training exercise days before he was due to go to the Gulf. Staff Sergeant Patrick Devlin, aged 50, of Wrafton, Braintree, north Devon, a member of the Royal Medical Corps, collapsed after going on a run in Aldershot, Hampshire.

No to mask order

Remmes — A French company has rejected a Saudi Arabian order for two million gas masks to be delivered within eight days because it would have meant two years' work. Pierre Philippon, managing director of the Giffard company, said. (Reuters)

Call for marches

Paris — The Paris-based "Americans for Peace" group called on Americans in Europe and the United States to march on Monday for a peaceful solution to the Gulf conflict. The group called for protest demonstrations to be staged in Paris, Washington, Geneva, London, Stockholm, Rome and Bonn. (Reuters)

Manila coup fear

Manila — Fidel Ramos, the defence secretary, gave a warning that the Philippines could face a combined right-wing army coup attempt and a communist-led uprising if war erupts in the Gulf. (Reuters)

Hostage priority

Beirut — Omar Karani, the prime minister of Lebanon, said that freeing the 12 Westerners held hostage in the country, three of them Britons, was a top priority of his newly formed national unity government. (Reuters)

Israeli anger over UN rebuke

By JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ISRAELI yesterday attacked the United Nations Security Council for criticising its policy in the occupied territories as the General Assembly's president was visiting refugee camps in the West Bank.

"This (security council) text is a gift to Saddam Hussein who is trying to divert world attention from events in the Gulf, said Avi Pazner, a spokesman for Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's prime minister. "We regret that several friendly countries did not face up to him."

He was referring to the condemnation of Israeli security

measures in the occupied territories and the security council's call on Israel to comply with the Fourth Geneva Convention. The convention calls for the respect and protection of civilian populations in time of war.

It was the fourth time since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait that the United States has supported a UN text criticising Israel for its policy in the occupied territories.

The security council issued a non-binding statement deploring the killing of at least six Palestinian civilians during escalating

violence this week to mark the 26th anniversary of the first guerrilla attack by Fatah, the main faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The 15 council-members said they were "deeply concerned about recent acts of violence in Gaza, especially actions by Israeli security forces against Palestinians, which led to scores of casualties."

The statement said the council members "deplore those actions, particularly the shooting of civilians."



Expulsion order: Azmi Shafiq Al-Salhi, left, the Iraqi ambassador to London, escorts some of the expelled diplomats at Heathrow. Seven diplomats were ordered to leave Britain

Expelled diplomats warn of reprisals if Iraq is attacked

By ANDREW McEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A WARNING that Arabs in Britain will take reprisals if Iraq is attacked was issued yesterday by one of the seven Iraqi diplomats expelled from Britain. As Naeef Abdul-Jabbar Hassan, the embassy press councillor, left from Heathrow airport he said: "I am sure that if there is any attack on Iraq a lot of targets in countries in the West will be demolished."

The Foreign Office said his remark "serves to justify the decision that has been taken", referring to the expulsion of the diplomats at 24 hours' notice after threats from Baghdad. The Iraqi foreign ministry denounced the expulsions and accused Britain of following in the footsteps of the United States. It also hinted that Baghdad may retaliate, presumably by expelling British dip-

lomats. "Iraq stigmatises these measures... and reserves itself the right to take the adequate measures at the opportune moment," an Iraqi News Agency official said.

Mr Hassan, aged 43, said: "If Iraq is going to be attacked, all Western countries will have targets to be hit — and Britain has allied itself with the Americans in this warfare. What kind of targets. I don't know. I know nothing concerning that. But we do believe that Arabs here and in all Western countries will launch something against so many targets if a war is launched against Iraq."

A Whitehall source said that those expelled were not picked at random but were chosen for good reasons, which he declined to give. But Mr Hassan said: "How am I a

danger? I don't understand."

When asked if there were Iraqis prepared to carry out attacks on Western targets, Mr Hassan said: "Every Arab person living abroad will do that. It is not a matter of Iraq pushing them, it is a matter of belief. I don't think seven diplomats will do all these things. I am sure the danger will come from within."

Salih Faraj Mohammad, the first secretary, left with his wife and four children. He said: "I am not a violent person. I am a family man. This action by Britain is wrong." Hussein Muhammad Jadoue, the third secretary, left with his wife and two children.

Iraqi officials said that five of the diplomats and a security guard left on a Royal Jordanian Airlines flight for Amman.

South African crime spree spurs rush to buy guns

FROM GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

VIOLENT crime is on the increase in South Africa and householders, finding they have to rely on themselves to protect their property, are buying guns and attending marksmanship courses.

The elderly gentleman firing away at a suspected burglar with a semi-automatic pistol was typical. As his shots flew wide of the target, he admitted: "Haven't fired this thing in years. Takes a bit of getting used to, doesn't it?" Happily for the general public, the gunfire was confined to an

indoor shooting range, where the retired tin miner and an assortment of bank clerks, shopowners and housewives were honing their skills for what amounts to urban warfare.

Business at the marksmanship academy in Johannesburg is booming after the upsurge in violent crime, which is the scourge of white suburbs and an enduring problem in black townships.

In the past 24 hours, 17 blacks, including a girl, aged seven, were killed in political faction-fighting in townships. The worst fighting occurred in Mabaleni and Hlati villages in Natal province, where groups armed with AK47 automatic rifles killed 12 villagers.

Two men were killed at Table Mountain township, near Pietermaritzburg, when groups armed with automatic rifles and shotguns fired at one another. Police said they discovered bodies of a man and the girl with gunshot wounds at Tokoza township, east of Johannesburg.

South Africans of all races, reeling from an onslaught by gun-toting robbers and rapists, are retreating behind perimeters of high walls, barbed wire, and electronic alarm systems, and stocking up on lethal weapons at an unprecedented rate. This week, Adrian Vlok, the law and order minister, launched "Operation Sentry", involving the recruitment of 10,000 policemen and increased rewards for the recovery of illegal weapons. The widespread use of AK47 assault rifles in recent robberies is reflected in the bounty-hunters' guide, which offers more than £1,000 for an AK47, compared with £160 for a grenade.

According to official statistics, more than 12,000 people were murdered in non-political incidents last year, or one every 45 minutes. A rape was committed every 26 minutes, a serious assault every four minutes, and a burglary every three minutes. The true extent of mayhem in black townships is anybody's guess.

Firearm licences are being issued at the rate of 30 a day, and more than a million people now possess three million licences. One in two white households is armed.

By all accounts, crime in white neighbourhoods rose sharply after the unbanning of the African National Congress and the release of its leader, Nelson Mandela, last year.

Dave Barr, a former US marine who manages a Johannesburg gun store, said: "Obviously it has to do with the ANC and other black nationalist groups. They are the catalysts for unrest."

But a member of the ANC refutes the claim. He said: "Blacks are not thieves by nature. It's a question of economic imperatives. The answer is to reduce the disparities which create the hunger and the hopelessness."

Helicopter shootings denied

San Salvador — Rebels of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) denied yesterday that they killed two American military advisers after shooting down their helicopter.

The rebels said in a radio message that the two Americans who survived the crash died later from their injuries. This contradicted a previous rebel version. (Reuters)

Delhi apology

Delhi — Subramanian Swamy, the Indian law and justice minister, has apologised for his reported threat to have the parliamentary Speaker arrested, and opposition members abandoned a move to censure him. Mr Swamy's threat embarrassed the minority government. (Reuters)

Ershad charges

Dhaka — Hussain Ershad, the deposed president of Bangladesh, is to be charged with smuggling, amassing wealth inconsistent with his income, and possession of illegal firearms, the government-owned *Dainik Bangla* newspaper reported. Mr Ershad was placed under house arrest in Dhaka on December 12. (AP)

Brando flight

Papeete, Tahiti — Cheyenne Brando, daughter of actor Marlon, is flying to France for medical treatment and so is unlikely to appear as a witness at the murder trial of her half-brother, Christian. (AFP)

Dissident halted

Taipei — Cheng Tsu-tsai, aged 54, a Taiwanese dissident who tried 20 years ago to assassinate Chiang Ching-kuo, the former president, was denied entry to Taiwan yesterday. He had obtained a visa in a false name but was detected. (AP)

Camp to close

Bangkok — Thailand is to close the O'Trao refugee camp controlled by Khmer Rouge guerrillas on its border with Cambodia within three months, according to relief officials here. (AFP)

Left Bank muse is back on stage

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

For those of us of a certain age, the news that Juliette Gréco will be back on stage again in Paris next week is like slipping into a delicious time warp.

Can it really be 40 years since she took the Left Bank by storm, half-singing, half-murmuring of love and loss, pleasure and pindition? Gréco, now aged over 60, had the



Gréco: lost none of her mischievous vitality

greatest composers of her era, Aznavour, Brecht, Bécud, Trénet, and Jacques Brel falling over to provide material. Her first performance she recalled the other day, came after

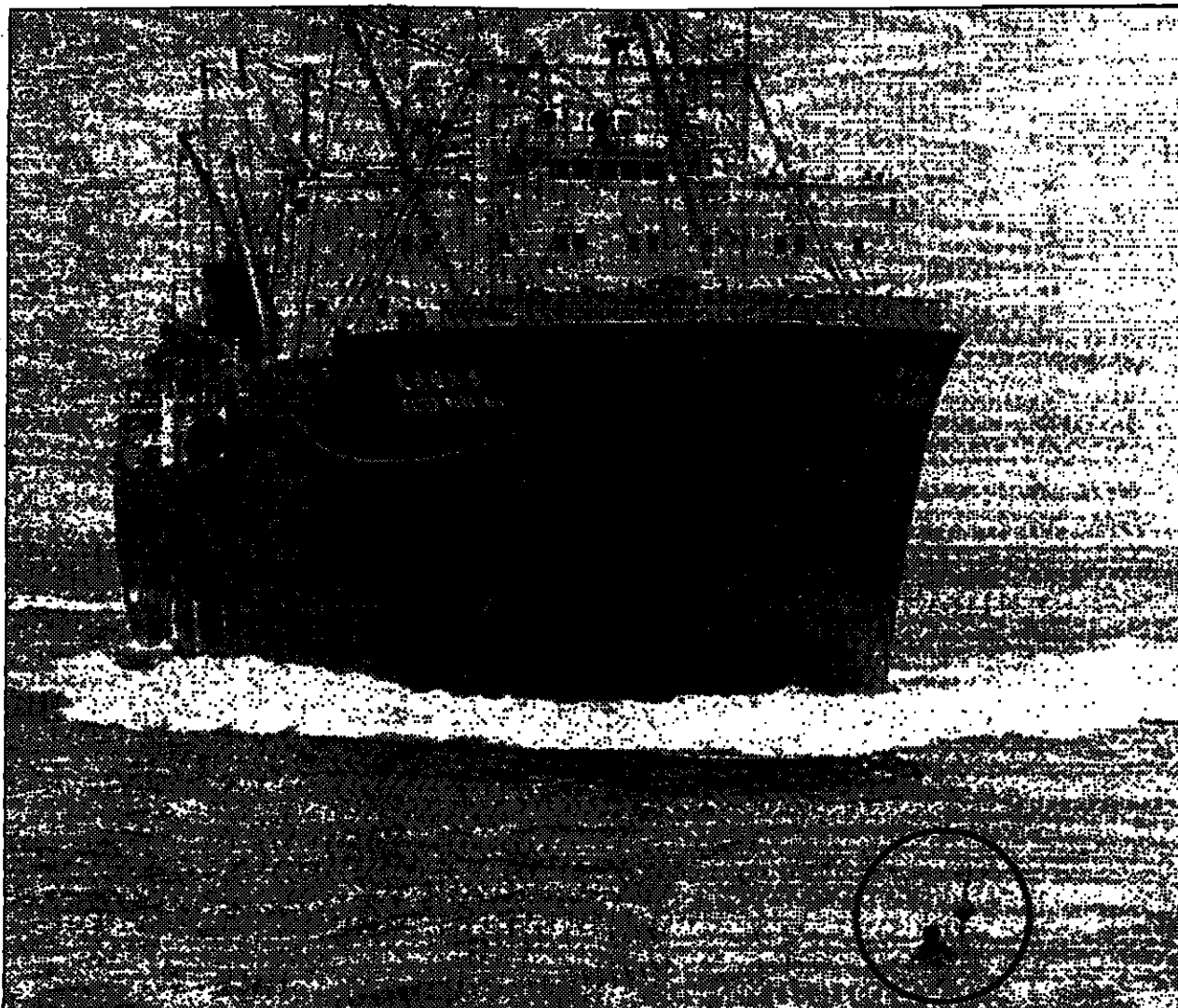
Jean-Paul Sartre wrote something for her after dinner at the old Cloclo d'Or.

Virtually overnight, the slim, raven-haired figure, black on black from head to foot, became the muse of a uniquely Left Bank culture, the era of Saint-Germain-des-Près and the Café Tabou, le Boeuf sur la Toit, la Rose Rouge.

Gréco says now that she does not miss those heady times. "Singing success arrived as a bit of a joke," she told *Le Figaro*. "I was actually cut out to be a dancer, but the war came and I decided to go for the theatre instead."

By the sound of it, she seems to have lost none of the mischievous vitality and slightly bawdy humour that shone through her performances.

Many in the audience greeting her at the Olympia next Tuesday know her work by heart. She claims to be nervous, but someone who finally rejects the word *chagrin* (sorrow) from a new set of lyrics because *douleur* or *souffrance* has a finer ring will hold any audience in the palm of her hand.



Wave of protest: a Greenpeace activist attempting a token halting of a Japanese whaling ship in the Tasman Sea. The Nissan Maru No.3 was sailing to the Antarctic to rendezvous with catcher ships, whose activities were also disrupted by the group. The protester was dropped into the path of the vessel by a helicopter

Sudanese rebels call on army to revolt

FROM JIM SHIMANYULA IN NAIROBI

COLONEL John Garang, the Sudanese rebel leader, yesterday rejected a federal system of government and called on the army to overthrow President al-Bashir.

In a year-end radio broadcast, Colonel Garang, of the Sudan People's Liberation Army, said the movement rejected the federal system announced last month by Lieutenant-General al-Bashir, who seized power last June. The radio, monitored in Nairobi, quoted Colonel Garang as saying: "We reject Bashir's federalism because it is based on sectarianism. It is intended to divert public attention from the issue of peace. It is among the systems of religious apartheid."

Colonel Garang, whose eight-year fight against the government has left millions homeless and hungry, fired ten prisoners of war, including an army officer, as a humanitarian gesture also designed to promote talks between the rebels and sections of the army that oppose the rule of the president.

Guerrilla rift as Somalis fight on

By ANDREW LYCETT

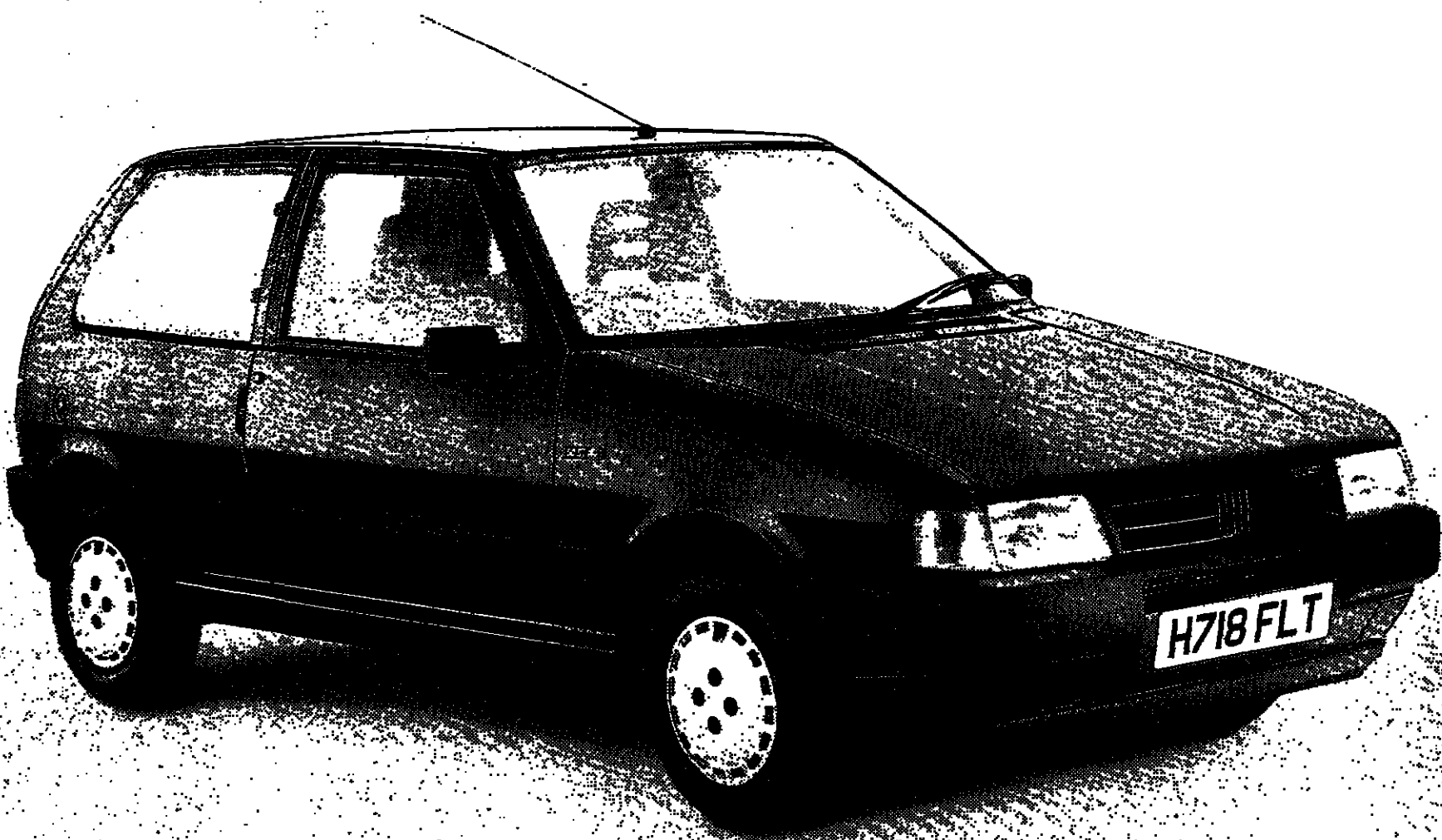
FIERCE fighting continued in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, yesterday as significant differences emerged among the rebel groups battling to overthrow President Siad Barre's government.

Diplomatic sources in Nairobi reported that, after six days of fierce fighting, soldiers loyal to President Siad Barre were still in control of the port and airport, while guerrillas of the United Somali Congress (USC), one of the three main rebel groups, were consolidating their hold on the north-western part of the city.

Each side was apparently digging in and awaiting the arrival of reinforcements.

The USC, which draws its strength from the large Hawiye clan living around Mogadishu, denied that it had reached accord with the Somali National Movement, which is based on the Issak tribe of the north of the country. Muhammad Robleh, representative of the USC in London, said: "We don't see eye to eye with the SNM. We suspect them of wanting to divide the country."

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Faith beyond welfare

Clifford Longley

With Mrs Thatcher gone, the friction between church and state has lessened. Nevertheless, John Gummer, who uniquely combines a seat in John Major's cabinet with a seat in the General Synod of the Church of England, has said he expects the next Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, to give the government a hard time.

This time round, church and state would do well to listen to each other more carefully, for what bedevilled the Runcie-Thatcher years was mutual deafness. For nearly half a century previously, Anglican thinking on politics had rested upon the "middle axioms" of Archbishop William Temple, one of the briefest but also probably the greatest Archbishop of Canterbury this century. Of left-leaning political views, Temple convened the Malvern Conference, the proceedings of which were reflected in the following year in his book *Christianity and the Social Order*. To mark its golden jubilee, another Malvern conference is to take place this year which will enable the Church of England to update its thinking on the state of society.

The bad-tempered collision in 1985 between the Thatcher government and the Church of England over the report *Faith in the City* showed there were new questions on the political agenda for which the church was not ready, particularly dependency on the welfare state.

The 1940s were a different age. In those days it was almost a point of honour for each church to regard itself as intellectually self-sufficient. In 1991, however, there is much cross-denominational interest in another anniversary, the centenary of Pope Leo XIII's papal encyclical *Rerum Novarum*, which is also to be commemorated with a national conference. *Rerum Novarum* was to Catholicism what *Christianity and the Social Order* was to Anglicanism: the promulgation of a mood for coming generations. Pope John Paul II has just announced that he is to issue a commemorative encyclical later this year, updating the tradition of *Rerum Novarum*, a necessity he links with the ending of communism and the emergence of democracy in eastern Europe.

Despite the lack of visible

ecumenical cross-fertilisation 50 or 100 years ago, there are discernible threads linking the two. Catholic social teaching since the war owes an undeclared debt to Temple, for the welfare state, pioneered in Britain but much imitated elsewhere, was eventually recommended by the Catholic church as part of the duty of all governments towards its citizens.

To some extent, it was implicit in *Rerum Novarum* too. Part of the thought behind that encyclical is believed to have come from Cardinal Manning, a great friend of the London poor and himself within the tradition of British Christian "socialism". And *Rerum Novarum* was an attempt to do for church social teaching exactly what the emerging Labour party was trying to do at the end of last century: to find a peaceful and democratic alternative both to revolutionary Marxism and *laissez-faire* capitalism.

If Temple was the hare - getting Canterbury to the welfare state before Rome - Leo XIII may yet prove the tortoise. In the 1920s and 1930s Catholicism had a dangerous flirtation with fascism, just as in the 1960s and 1970s, particularly in Latin America, it flirted dangerously with Marxism. But a great body of Catholic social teaching was slowly built by later popes on the foundations laid by Leo (and ignored by many of the faithful looking for instant and radical answers). This teaching now looks remarkably important in two contemporary contexts: the future of western Europe in the EC, and of the struggling democracies of eastern Europe. Perhaps its time has come at last.

The Temple tradition, meanwhile, has gone rather quiet. If Dr Carey is to aim big guns at Mr Major's government, as Mr Gummer anticipates and perhaps wishes, the Church of England may be a bit short of ammunition. But few Anglican church leaders are as eclectic as the next archbishop, who is not afraid to plunder Catholicism for fresh ideas. The fortuitous juxtaposition of important anniversaries of Archbishop Temple and Pope Leo may lead to a coming together of two traditions of social teaching, so strengthening each.

That would be a test of whether Britain's two largest churches can work together as they recently pledged. At this stage, the signs are that the average Anglican does not expect to learn much from the Roman tradition. And Roman Catholics in Britain - notwithstanding declarations of ecumenical commitment - are probably equally nonplussed. But if the churches are to give the government a run for its money over the next decade, each sorely needs the stimulus of the other's thought.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

The New Year's honours list has again given us the chance to say why the people who got them should not have done, and those who didn't should have.

The ranks of those who deserve more public recognition than they get being infinite, and the reserves of spite felt toward anyone who gets it being boundless, there are all the ingredients for a good old moan. If an occasion should ever arise in which every honour given was deserved, and every deserved honour was given, we should feel cheated. Half the point of the exercise would be gone.

The point is to enable each of us to propose a list of what we would have handed out if we were the Queen or the prime minister. Here is mine.

This time I would have created a supplementary category giving Mrs Thatcher one last chance of spitting in the eye of all the people who, over the years, have really done her down. Its targets would not (on the whole) be her official enemies - the Scargills, Livingstones and Galtiers (whom this column honoured before Christmas) - but those who have genuinely hurt her. Many of these turn out to have been on her own side.

Here, then, is Mrs Thatcher's New Year's (Dis)honours list. We start with the early years, during which the man she toppled succeeded in provoking her, often enough, to a cold fury. To Ted Heath goes, not the Order of Merit but the other OM - Old Miseryguts. (A minor award in this category, the OA - Order of the Asp - goes to Julian Critchley.)

To Peter Wright goes special recognition for *Spycatcher* in the form of a rival to the Booker prize to be known as the Rusbie award. With it comes Mrs T's own version of the *Jawwad* the *Tharwah*.

Also in this category comes an honour for Tam Dalyell, to mark his tireless efforts to expose something or other. Some speculate that this is to be called the Belgrano award: others think that Tam is to be made Lord Westland. The point (and this is the sting) is that it is a

secret award. Tam will be told unattributably that it is: but as soon as he tries to claim (or disclaim) it, official sources will deny all knowledge. However, leaks, emanating from sources close to Downing Street, will continue to circulate, tormenting Dalyell to further outbursts, whereupon further strenuous denials will be issued.

We move now to the end of the Thatcher years. Jacques Delors did much to precipitate the string of angry outbursts that proved, finally, too much for some of Mrs Thatcher's colleagues. These latter are to be honoured separately, but it was M Delors (with the Italians) who set her up in Rome, to be pulled down when she returned to Westminster. Delors will live to regret replacing Thatcher by Major and swapping an easy target for a difficult one, but, in the meantime from Mrs Thatcher personally comes a very special honour for him: not the OB (Order of the Bath), but the OAB (Order of the Acid Bath).

Even after the Rome fiasco, she still had one slim hope of survival. If the Iraqis had attacked, the Tory party would have united behind its leader. Everything pointed to such an attack. It was Hussein's best moment, before the western forces were properly assembled. He missed it, shattering Mrs Thatcher's chances of building an election victory upon a desert war. Where Galtier came up trumps, Hussein fumbled it. Our highest award for bravery being named after a notable railway station, this award takes its name from two rather dismal ones. To Saddam Hussein goes the New Cross (and Clapham Junction).

With the Iraqi escape hatch closed, it was left to Sir Geoffrey Howe and Michael Heseltine to put the knife in. Sir Geoffrey's attack was the cruellest, so his punishment should be the most exquisite. DBE - Dismembered by the British Empire - will do nicely.

Mr Heseltine is to be knighted in the usual manner, with one variation. The sword, wielded by Mrs Thatcher herself, is to be applied, not to the shoulder, but to the neck.

The Times profile: as a last-ditch attempt is made to avert a Gulf war, James Baker, at first wary of Bush's hard line, will tell Iraq on Wednesday there can be no deal

The purring leopard snarls

On the seventh floor of the State Department building on Washington's C Street, the Bush administration's most tightly controlled team of officials prepares daily briefs on Iraqi diplomacy for the most tightly disciplined Secretary of State in living memory. The result, none the less, is chaos. No one can agree what Saddam Hussein will do. No one is even sure what President Bush will do as the deadline for the use of force draws daily closer.

These are unhappy times for James Addison Baker III, a man whose personal trademark is infinite flexibility, but who likes a clean desk from which to plot his campaigns. "There is no better leopard at changing his spots to achieve political results," said one veteran State Department official yesterday, "but even he has his limit. As Saddam plays about with schedules and calendars, that limit is all but up."

Baker does not let his feelings show, but by all well-informed accounts he hates this present phase of the Kuwaiti drama, just as he hated the first phase, when the initial force of American troops was rushed to Saudi Arabia. His in-trays are crowded: changing options circle ever faster around his head. There is almost a nostalgia now for the period from October to December when Bush had the simple aim of assuring potential allies of his reasonableness. Baker, the president's old friend and confidant, tennis partner and campaign manager, was the right man for the time.

A former attorney from Houston, Texas, Baker had already won an unparalleled reputation for wheeling and dealing over three decades - on behalf of big banks and real-estate brokers, for Howard Hughes and Gerald Ford, for those deepest in debt and for their stingiest creditors. During the first two years of the Bush presidency he became America's most confident ambassador since Henry Kissinger. After steering America through the end of the cold war, he circled the globe by plane and telephone to marshal friends and enemies behind the Washington policies of sanctions, military deployment and threatened use of force against Iraq.

Part of the Baker mystique was that he made it seem easy. It helped that he had been on holiday when the first American troops were deployed. He also subtly let it be known that his support for the headline response, and for the war that might result, was less than absolute. The result was a series of covert deals and overt triumphs which, if Saddam Hussein were to withdraw from Kuwait tomorrow, would go down in history as classics of their kind. He could cut a deal with the devil, his friends proudly said, and he made St James the next day. But those, as the State Department insider put it yesterday, were the days of "the purring leopard".

When Bush lost confidence that Saddam would withdraw voluntarily from Kuwait and decided to send an emissary to Baghdad as a "last best chance for peace", he again sent for Baker. There was the obvious danger that the commissioning of America's most openly pragmatic, least ideological official would suggest a readiness to compromise, but officially at least, the president did not want his emissary to deal - or at least not to appear to do so. That was a hard brief for the Secretary of State to pick up. Even his admirers admit that this man trades interests as ordinary people breathe

air, that he has never seen a set of circumstances that he did not think he could improve by being single-minded, working hard and watching for the main chance.

Baker, however, took on the role of intransigent with a will. The purring leopard has begun to roar, talking very tough, and with almost constant television appearances and press briefings, has presented himself as the man who would not blink when the hard messages had to be delivered and the hard decisions made. His friends began to stress not his patrician legal background as the saviour of one of Texas's foremost families, but an earlier Texas, that of the legendary frontier where men were men and right was right and the Bakers were both.

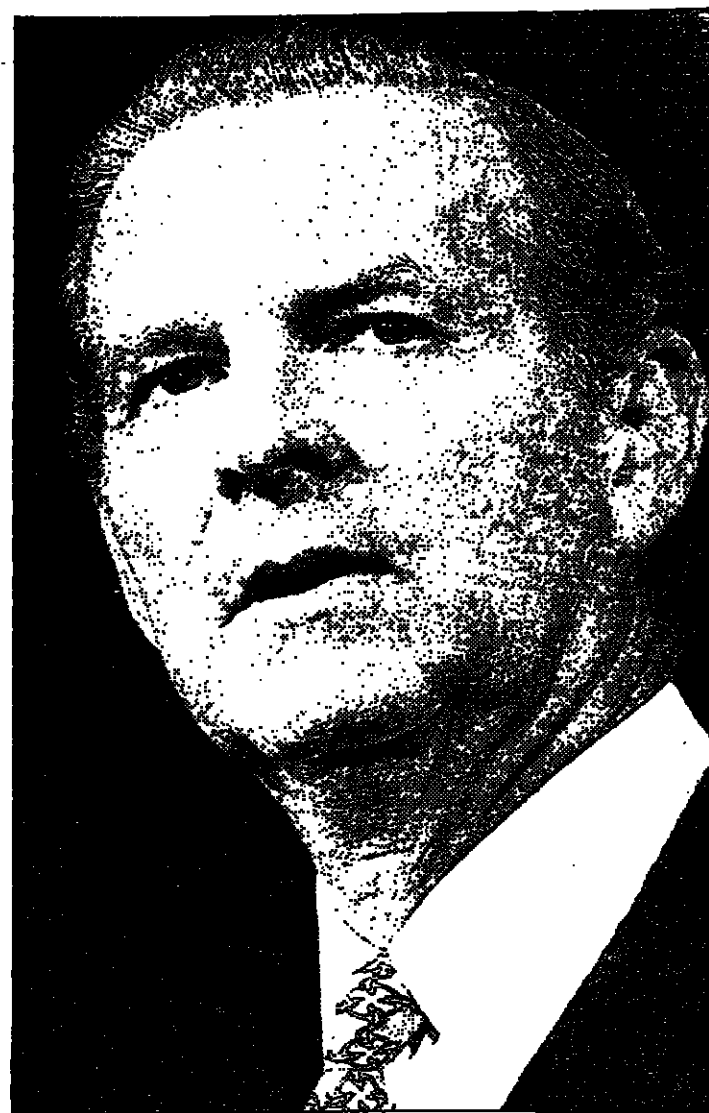
Baker, journalists were told, was going to look Saddam in the eye and make clear that there was nothing to be talked about but an Iraqi departure from Kuwait. It was going to be a titanic "clash of foreheads". Saddam's now famous wall-like brow would come up against the equally impressive, though somewhat smoother, bone-structure of the Secretary of State, and a thousand newspaper photographs would tell the story: no deal.

That meeting may not now take place. Baker is more likely to meet Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister. What signals will come from the American side of the table at those talks: pure repetition of the UN demands or something more amenable to Saddam? Nobody knows, but the best judgement in Washington is that if Saddam is looking to Baker for help, he is making a big mistake. Baker is angry. In sharp contrast to the president, he is a very private figure. As one old friend put it: "Jimmy is known only to himself, and possibly not even to him." He has never been an elected politician open to the public gaze, as public office demands. For all those reasons, his thoughts are difficult to predict. But anger, it is known, can make him very tough.

James Baker was born 60 years ago to one of the families that built Houston after the civil war. The Bakers helped the city grow from cattle-depot to one of the biggest commercial centres of the south. Baker & Bots was the second oldest law firm, west of the Mississippi. The family also owned banks and utility companies, provided founder members of the best clubs and represented all that was considered proper in the fast-growing state.

The Bakers were taught to excel, and only to excel. James's grandfather, Captain Baker, began the family tradition of sending his sons east for a patina of Ivy League manners. Following this route, James studied history and classics at Princeton in the early 1950s. He contributed a thesis on the British Labour party, deciding, not surprisingly, that Bevin's pragmatism was greatly to be preferred to the theories of Bevan.

It has since become a commonplace of the political commentators that Baker became an



James Baker: an evocation of the Texas frontier when men were men and right was right, and the Bakers were both

easterner, like George Bush, and left the world of Texas behind. But those who know him well insist that his family roots remain strong. The Texan strains in James Baker are both his optimism, which in a politician may turn to pragmatism, and a crude bloody-mindedness.

He had an abrasive childhood, born late to conservative parents who threw cold water over him if he slept past seven o'clock and insisted on high academic performance from a boy who was better at tennis than at French. Baker became a man who trusted few, needed few, and who would outmatch anyone in order to match standards set inside his head. Faced by the same standards, his sister became mentally ill, a schizophrenic and depressive.

Baker was first married in 1953 to Mary McHenry of Dayton, Ohio, and had his first brush with Republican politics. In Texas in those days a Republican was a rare bird, and the Baker family, for whom conformity was a matter of good taste, were Democrats. In the 1960s, however, while Baker was making money at law, his wife campaigned for George Bush, who was then seeking election to the Senate.

Baker became political himself only after Mary died suddenly of

cancer. Partly to salve the pain, he joined Bush's 1970 senate campaign, and hurried himself into the vote-winning business as fervently as he had every other.

He had four sons by his first marriage, and his relationship with them was, as formal as his own childhood had been. After their mother's death a series of personal disasters, in particular with one son who was convicted for drug offences, caused the family great grief. But for James Baker it was as if the events were happening to someone else.

The young James A. Baker IV described his father's interests then as working, sleeping and hunting - a trio that has changed since only with a diminution in the hunting. His second marriage was fiercely opposed by at least one of his children. When a British observer queried Baker's lack of consultation over his talks with Saddam Hussein, an American official reminded him that this was a man for whom secrecy was a way of life. He had not even told all his sons that he was remarried. What was he to do?

Susan Baker, who had been a close Houston friend of the first Mrs Baker and had been married to an alcoholic friend of both Baker and Bush, is credited with transforming the Secretary of

State's personal life. Her three children and Baker's four have been supplemented by an eighth, a daughter, Mary Bonner Baker. It was Susan Baker who had to deal with the drug convictions of John C. Baker in 1982, and she who had to arrange some reconciliation with him after his anger at his father's remarriage.

Her religious faith is now said to be a substantial influence on her husband, but evidence of this is scarce. Few even of the Secretary of State's closest aides have been to his Washington house. Once the home of Democratic presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson, it now hosts fewer books, more big-game trophies and far fewer people.

"When I became political, I did so in a hurry," Baker once said about his rise from part-time senate aide in 1970 to presidential campaign chief six years later. When President Ford lost to Jimmy Carter in 1976, it was asked afterwards if the balance might have been tipped had Baker spent more money from the White House war chest.

Not for the last time in his life, however, Baker escaped serious blame, and by diligence and native wit, he became campaign manager for Bush again in 1980, then President Reagan's chief of staff, Treasury secretary and manager of Bush's successful campaign for the presidency in 1988.

The blows delivered during those turbulent White House years would have destroyed weaker men - and did. Baker survived and prospered. Friends say he has grown even stronger, by being even more self-contained, as the years have passed. In Washington he is not a man to cross. His influence is everywhere, and can rarely be traced. The attempts by John Sununu, Bush's chief of staff, to get the better of him are part of an endless White House comic act, in which Sununu is nearly always worsted.

It is easy to see why Baker should have been irritated by the early progress of events in the Gulf. Because of Saddam, Baker's future, as well as that of the president, is now uncomfortably out of his own grasp. He has often said he will eschew elective office, and that his one failed attempt to become attorney-general of Texas in 1978 did not encourage him to go further on his own account. But that has not discouraged speculation.

His much-touted difficulties with Vice-President Dan Quayle have led to continuing comment that he might wish to supplant Quayle, even in 1992. His new passion for a ranch in Wyoming, in his own words, a reason for packing up his bags with Bush and riding out into the sunset. But others see it as a ruse to change his residency qualification to avoid the constitutional difficulties of a president and vice-president coming from the same state. Today, a Bush-Baker ticket seems unlikely, although nothing can be ruled out about Baker when so little about him can be securely ruled in.

Defeating Saddam must come first. To do that, he must not merely be as tough as his ancestors on the frontier, but as subtly ruthless as the bargainers in an Arab souk. After so many East disasters in the Middle East, many American officials and diplomats have lost confidence in their ability to deal with Arabs over the negotiating table. But the Secretary of State is certainly the best souk trader the country has, and today his mood is raw.

Drawing the front after all

With the Gulf crisis now in its sixth month and John Keane, the Imperial War Museum's official artist, still kicking his heels in London, another painter has been capturing the military preparations for war for posterity.

To the annoyance of Keane, who has been prevented from joining the troops by the Ministry of Defence, Major Robin Watt, the Royal Hussars' noted amateur artist, is in Saudi Arabia sketching and painting each unit within the 7th Armoured Brigade. While better known for his paintings of wildlife, and in particular for a book he is producing on the fauna of the Falkland Islands, his latest work has won approval.

Although his regiment is not in the Gulf, Major Watt asked if he could take his Christmas leave with the troops in order to do some paintings. His wife Jane says: "He asked to go and the army agreed, as long as it was on behalf of somebody, so he is doing the paintings and sketches for the Army Benevolent Fund. He has been a keen artist since his school days, when he won prizes. He went straight into the army, but has always kept up his interest."

Major Watt left for the Gulf on November 27 and is due to return shortly. He has already sent back photocopies of some of his work, showing the men and equipment in the desert.

While he is busy sketching, John Keane continues to wait in his Hackney studio for a first official visit from the ministry since his commission to record the Gulf crisis was announced more than four months ago. Despite

lobbying by senior staff at the Imperial War Museum, which administers the government's war artist scheme, the ministry has refused to fly him out.

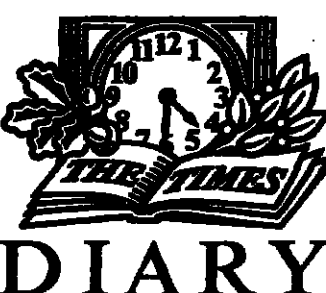
General Michael Swindells, controller of the Army Benevolent Fund, says: "Major Watt is not the official artist, but is doing some drawings and sketches of the training going on out there and will give the profits of what he sells to the charity. He has already arranged to give us a share of the profits of the book he has done of Falklands wildlife."

• We may be a nation of dog-lovers, but we are fast falling behind the Japanese. Asomoto General Foods has launched a new high-fibre dog food, while Nippon Pet Food has developed Vita-one Mix, for ease of digestion. And so that cats don't feel neglected, AGF has also launched a cat food low in magnesium and rich in vitamin E which, say the scientists, helps to prevent heart disease.

Spine-chillers

Although deprived of beer and other home comforts as the UN deadline to Saddam Hussein draws ominously near, British servicemen in Saudi Arabia have just enjoyed a little light relief - the first visit by an entertainment troupe.

Arranged by Services Sounds and Vision Corporation for the Ministry of Defence, the troupe starred television comedian Bob Carolee and his canine puppet, Spit. It put on 14 shows, each in front of an audience of 1,000. As icing on the cake, especially for the Scots, the BBC television coverage of the traditional New Year Rangers-Celtic soccer match was beamed live into the British military bases.



Full-length films have also been sent out for the forces' two open-air cinemas, with *Mad Max* and *Crocodile Dundee* the favourites. But a request has been made for shorter films, or even cartoons. Roger Edwards-Jones, for the unit, says: "The temperature drops so quickly at night it's too cold for the troops to sit through a full-length feature film."

• European union is one thing, but as Sussex West MEP Madron Seligman has discovered, when it comes to harmonising the size of coins to spend a penny, the Commission is not interested. He wrote to the Commission on behalf of a constituent caught short on Cologne station, only to receive the following reply: "It is primarily a matter for transport companies to ensure that the package of services they offer their customers is attractive and competitive."

Gales and sales

While weekend gales are preoccupying most staff at the Meteorological Office, one section is looking ahead to offer ice-cream and soft-drink makers advice on the likely sunshine next summer so they know when their products will be in greatest demand. Nearly 50 companies now con-

sult a new business division of the Met Office called the Weather Initiative, set up last year to advise businesses on long-term weather trends. "The weather is an important factor in many business activities," says Alan Douglas, managing director. "For example a retailer might think about delaying a sale until a patch of bright weather is forecast."

But what of the sceptics who think the Met Office is an unreliable port of call in a storm after Michael Fish's failure to predict the great gale of 1987? "Michael Fish will not be fronting our new service," says Douglas.

• If you should encounter Sir Denis Thatcher, ignore him - or you might suffer the same leg-pull him of a financial nest egg. When a copy of his first volume of poetry, *Nine Experiments* (1928), was sold at Sotheby's in New York for \$37,000 last year, London, he recalled how, soon after printing the volume on his hand-press, he destroyed every

copy he could lay his hands on. As an undergraduate at Oxford, Spender produced 30 copies of *Nine Experiments* and a similar run of Auden's first book, *Prezios*. He recalls that both editions were "abominably" printed, with not all the typography visible.

But soon after the printing a fellow student whispered in Spender's ear that Auden was not impressed with his verse. "I do not remember what the exact remarks were, except that they were disparaging," says Spender. "And I set out to destroy every copy of the book I could lay my hands on, even stealing from friends in order to do so." As a result, only about half a dozen copies survived.

Spender did retain one copy of his own book and one of Auden's (of which about 20 copies survive), but in 1964 he sold both to the Elliston Collection of the University of Cincinnati.

"When I heard about the recent sales, I rang my brother and sister to see if they had kept copies," he says, "but they seem to have forgotten all about *Nine Experiments*. A pity. We could have done with \$37,000 just now."

• Six decades later, what does he think of Auden's criticism of his juvenilia? "His remarks didn't surprise me," he says. "The poems are horribly embarrassing."

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EVILS OF OPTING OUT

Perhaps using this as a smoke screen, Mr Clarke has meanwhile quietly watered down the national curriculum so beloved of his predecessor but one, Kenneth Baker. Recognising at last the impracticability of expecting all schoolchildren of every ability to study all ten main subjects up to the age of

His loosening up on the core curriculum is, as he claimed, a move in the direction of flexibility, and away from a blind ideological insistence that all children should be educated in the same way. Mr Clarke now needs to open his eyes to the real dangers of wholesale opting out, which is not in origin an education policy at all but a consequence of Margaret Thatcher's perverse dislike of local government democracy in all its forms.

Evangelism is part of the apostolic ministry of the whole church. Its aim is neither to proselytise nor to

relevance for all".
Yours faithfully,
MARCUS BRAYBROOKE
(Chairman, International Interfaith
Organizations Coordinating
Committee).
2 The Bassetts,
Box, Corsham, Wiltshire.
December 28.

repression in the past decade.

Muslims consistently demand an equality and a toleration that it seems to me they have no intention of granting where they are in the majority.

Yours sincerely,
B.H. DAVIS,
40 Oates Road,
Collier Row, Romford, Essex.

we would misrepresent us. We should welcome Salman Rushdie's newly-expressed sympathy for Islam and the concession he has made. We should not be over-sceptical of his sincerity (as we should not be over-sure of our own), or expect him to consume too much humble pie. In time-honoured tradition, Muslim leaders should offer him their protection and warn would-be martyrs that an unjust act committed in Allah's name will be disowned by him.

The Senate, the less insular of the two chambers of Congress, might conceivably be persuaded to give explicit approval for war against Iraq. The House of Representatives, a body of men and women not notably endowed with political courage, would surely refuse. The president, who lacks

George Bush is too old a political hand to listen to such advice. He knows that Congress has the duty to act as a forum for national debate on war and peace. He would certainly take any resolution critical of his Gulf policy very seriously. His efforts over the next few days should be devoted to persuading Congress that his respect for its opinions and prerogatives is such that congressional interference in the executive sphere would be superfluous. Congress should have its say now. After January 15, though, President Bush must be left by Congress to speak for America.

Anchors to past

The proposed national lottery for arts, sports and environment has nothing to do with the speculative, untried games which have recently resulted in failure, nor with commercial lotteries trying to function without the proper change in the law. The national lottery would provide support for capital and endowment funding in these three fields which no government could be expected to cover.

It was this constant gying of the establishment which brought Gilbert into conflict with Victorian authority — a conflict nonetheless real for being silent.

Yours, etc.,
DENIS VAUGHAN (Director),
The Lottery Promotion Company
Limited,
41 Floral Street, WC2.

Saddam Hussein's aggressive actions are fully realized, as evidenced by Operation Desert Shield and the Security Council resolution calling for withdrawal by January 15. Now he has repeated and intensified his threatening words, targeting Israel for attack (report, December 26).

Throughout the Kuwait crisis, despite these provocations and threats to its very existence, Israel has exercised considerable restraint. This has been acknowledged and welcomed, not least by the government of the United States. This co-operation should not be forgotten when the "post-Kuwait" settlement is negotiated. Nor if, as in 1967, it is forced to respond to these threats of force by force.

As, Sir Jeffrey Sterling implies, the threat of war is so continuously imminent that part of our merchant fleet needs to be on constant standby, then there is a permanent role for the military authorities, rather than our commercial shipping lines.

...a continuous worldwide over-supply of shipping tonnage. Until over-supply is eliminated at source none of the other problems can be permanently resolved, and aid or subsidy to British shipowners will simply allow them to operate more vessels at even lower load factors and higher unit costs, without benefit to the country or to our industrial exporting effort.

It is little wonder, therefore, that British exporters feel no strong commitment to use British lines. That situation could be changed if British lines were in a more compe-

December 28.
From Mr Paul Willcox
Sir, With reference to Mr Cowan's letter (December 22), I would point out that fortunes were certainly made as recently as between 1987 and 1989, during which period secondhand ship values increased by up to 400 per cent.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

Yours faithfully,
DOMINIC E. WALSH,
Kelvin, Camden Road,
Carshalton, Surrey.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MAXTONE GRAHAM,
6 Moat Sole, Sandwich, Kent.

From Mr Jonathan Peacock
Sir, We ornithologically-names species do not only live in the West Country as Mr Titchhurst suggests

Sir, In Leicestershire, whence a family comes, I believe that there are still quite a few who share the surname of
Your obedient servant,
J. WILDBORE,
Shoreham Cottage, Beech Manor,
Pontesbury, Shropshire.

and I joined the Woodcock(s) and
the Partridges.
Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN PEACOCK,
278 Chester Road,
Little Sutton, Wirral.

From Sir John B. Hall
Sir, What of the peculiarly British habit of naming birds after ourselves? Robin Redbreast, Tom Tit, Jenny Wren, Magpie and Jackdaw.

From Mr. W. James Thompson
Sir, I have just seen hot cross buns
on sale — sell-by date, January 6.
Does this mean that today is Good
Friday?

Yours faithfully,
W. JAMES THOMPSON,
155 Conway Road,
Colwyn Bay, Clwyd.
January 4.

War is a beastly business, and not just for the soldiers. Sir John Nott, a member of Mrs Thatcher's Falklands inner cabinet, has since borne testimony to the toll it takes of strength and will. Mr King is a man of sufficient, but not of demonic energy; and the duties of his post may have been a contributory factor to his brief collapse last month.

Winston Churchill's stamina was formidable, but even he was at pains during the war years to tack a few days rest and a decent dip in the sea on to expeditions abroad. Even Mr King's best friends would not equate him with the great warlord, but what was good for Winnie is surely good for him.

If, as Sir Jeffrey Sterling implies, the threat of war is so continuously imminent that part of our merchant fleet needs to be on constant standby, then there is a permanent role for the military authorities, rather than our commercial shipping lines.

simply allow them to operate more vessels at even lower load factors and higher unit costs, without benefit to the country or to our industrial exporting effort.

Yours faithfully,
J. WELSH, Director,
British Shippers' Council,
Hamer House, St John's Road

on their principal role of developing and promoting our international trade and competing effectively with foreign shipping lines. However, on their own initiative they have entered into voluntary agreements with foreign lines that have the effect of giving the British lines a minor share in our own international trade.

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Yours faithfully,
PAUL WILLCOX,
Valley Farm,
Sproughton, Suffolk.
December 23.

British lines were in a more competitive position. But, once again, the solution is in their own hands, for if shipowners feel they cannot compete on price with subsidised foreign shipowners they can take advantage

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

Help: Jill Caesar, personal exercise trainer

Fitness delivered to your doorstep

ARE you serious about your exercise? Then get a personal trainer to make sure you keep your new year's resolution to become fitter and slimmer. The personal trainer, or PT, has become one of the few growth jobs of the recession, valued by business people, housebound housewives and others too frightened or embarrassed to start jogging or join a health club.

Jill Caesar, a fitness instructor, says that when the cost of health clubs is taken into account, a PT who renders their unnecessary can be a good investment, even at top London fees, like hers, of £35 an hour.

Ms Caesar, aged 28, teaches at several London centres. She is a PT with Energy Unlimited, a company started two and a half years ago by Carol Hampton. The company sells its training package to suitable candidates who want to set themselves up as PTs under the Energy Unlimited banner.

"Successful candidates must have a recognised fitness training qualification and a certificate of insurance," Ms Caesar says. "And we give them an intensive weekend training course as well."

A good PT is available from about 7am to late in the evening. "We always insist on an initial meeting for a basic fitness assessment and find out what you want to achieve," Ms Caesar says. "We may just start by taking you out for a gentle walk, or give you a 'step' class, which is a nice, low-impact way of doing aerobics — I'd bring my portable Reebok step with me, which can be adjusted to anywhere from four to 12 inches. One session we might concentrate on the abdominals and legs, another on the back and so on."

Ideally, Ms Caesar suggests three sessions a week. Kate Bell, 36, a market research company director, trained with Ms Caesar between the birth of her two children.

"Now I seem to have run out of time and money," Mrs Bell says,



Hard at work out: Jill Caesar

"but it's been very worthwhile. I started with Jill when I felt floppy after the birth of my first child two years ago and wanted to tone up for skiing."

Mrs Bell is convinced her second pregnancy was easier than her first, with fewer aches and pains, because she continued to train through it.

Ms Caesar says: "I've seen a lot of ladies through pregnancy and start with many of them just after the birth of a baby

when they're housebound and out of shape. And I had one man who hadn't done any exercise since he was 12 and was so out of shape he couldn't touch his toes. We had to go very gently."

The knowledge that a well-muscled PT is going to show up at their door motivates most people in a way that exercise books and videos cannot. "It's a question of personal encouragement," Ms Caesar says. "You can't turn me off like you can a video."

There is no need to conform to a single programme, and if an instructor is unsatisfactory, Ms Caesar advises a quick change. She finds that people generally prefer trainers of the same sex.

"We have people on our books from Scotland to Southampton," she says, "and there is bound to be somebody to suit. But the chemistry has to be right between you and your trainer."

VICTORIA MCKEE

Energy Unlimited can be reached on 071-483 2681.

The plane man's guide to art

Bernard Silk finds out how an aviation enthusiast has turned his obsession with aircraft into an art gallery business

Roger Markman has been obsessed with aircraft since he was a boy. Now he has realised a life-time's ambition by opening what he believes is Britain's first gallery devoted purely to works of aeronautical art.

"If it's got wings, flies, and isn't a bird, then it has my undivided attention," Mr Markman, aged 43, says. "If I hear an aircraft I have to stop whatever I am doing until I've spotted and identified it."

His Ad Astra gallery at Ashton-under-Lyne, a few miles from Manchester's city centre, has more than 60 works on show. These are mainly originals, priced from £80 to £3,000, by some of the country's leading aviation artists.

Mr Markman's interest in aeronautics began as a young boy, listening to tales told by his father, who had worked as an instrument mechanic on Lancaster bombers during the second world war. "He really fuelled my fascination for aircraft, and as I grew up in those post-war days I would pin up pictures of planes when other lads had football heroes," Mr Markman says.

"I used to make model aircraft, collect toy planes, and I bought many aero comics, magazines and specialised publications. I visited aerodromes and air displays and took pictures of planes, and, later on, did some gliding. My ambition was to be an RAF pilot, but when I had to get glasses at 12, I realised I would never qualify. Flying civil aircraft didn't seem as important to me."

After university, Mr Markman became a teacher, and, later, a psychiatric nurse. His off-duty interest in aircraft continued, however. "I've been wanting to run my own business for ages. This year I thought, 'If I don't do it now I never will'. So I chucked in my job, combined business with pleasure, and opened the gallery."

"Fortunately, as a member of

the Manchester Aviation Art Society I know plenty of enthusiasts and some artists, which has stood me in good stead. Aviation art is a small world, so it doesn't take long to get to know most of the people in it. I bet there aren't more than ten full-time aviation artists in this country, plus another couple of dozen who do it part-time, and I've met most of them."

Mr Markman transformed a Victorian semi-detached house into an office and art gallery, which he has filled with pictures of everything from a 1910 Bristol Boxkite to the space shuttle.

"The cheapest print here is about £20, and the cheapest original work is £80 — that's a small picture of a Dakota dropping a paratrooper. At the other end of the price range are three pictures of second world war USAAF B-17 bombers. They are by John Rayson, who is a leading aviation artist, and each costs £3,000."

Soon, Mr Markman hopes to have pictures on display of helicopters in action, drawn by the British war artist Linda Kitson during the Falklands conflict.

There are plans to open a restaurant in Manchester next year built around a Vulcan bomber, and he will be supplying some suitable aviation art to put on show.

Mr Markman also commissions artists to paint a particular subject for clients, and one work in progress is a portrait of Roy Chadwick, the chief designer of the Avro Anson, Lancaster, Shackleton, Vulcan and many more. The picture is for the Lancaster Museum in Lincolnshire and will be unveiled by Leonard Cheshire, VC, the wartime bomber pilot and founder of the Cheshire Homes.

"I helped Mr Chadwick's daughter, Rosemary Lapham, to collate her father's archives, and it was one of the great experiences of



Planes on his mind: "If it's got wings and isn't a bird, it has my undivided attention", says Roger Markman

my life," Mr Markman says.

"There was a menu from the Dam Busters airtree dinner at the Hungaria restaurant in London following the investiture at Buckingham Palace in 1943. It was signed by Guy Gibson, Barnes Wallis, Roy Chadwick and just about everyone involved in the raid — most got medals. The menu was misprinted — Dam Busters. The archive also had the first flight certificate of the prototype Lancaster from 1941, and numerous lecture texts. Mr Chadwick was killed during a test flight of the Avro Tudor Mark II at Woodford in 1947."

Mr Markman says aero art now interests people around the world. He has established contact with dealers from America and Japan, and hopes to build up a flow of paintings between countries. He is commissioning a portrait of Jiro Horikoshi, the chief designer of the Mitsubishi Zero fighter.

"People who are showing an interest in the gallery range from veteran pilots who were flying and working planes in the Thirties to younger collectors in their twenties, who are just as devoted," Mr Markman says. "If the Ad Astra is the first gallery of its type in Britain, I suppose it's because I'm the first aviation enthusiast who loves aero art and has had the idea of turning it into a business. It's an unusual combination."

Events in town

THIS WEEKEND

● **ENSA Concert Party:** Baroque 'n' Roll recreate the songs, dances and comedy acts of the London Blitz. Tomorrow afternoon, wartime singing and dancing. Both suitable for all the family.

● **Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2:** Tonight 6.45pm, tickets £5, check availability on 071-600 3699. Tomorrow, 2.45pm and 3.45pm, free (booking unnecessary).

● **Animal make-up workshop:** Experts from the National Theatre demonstrate techniques for turning humans into badgers, rats and other animals. Suitable for seven to 11-year-olds. National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1. Today 11am-12.30pm. Tickets £1.50 from the education department. Check availability on 071-261 9808.

● **The Road to Waterloo:** New permanent exhibition which looks at the British Army during its struggle against revolutionary and Napoleonic France between 1793 and 1815. Weapons, paintings, prints, maps, medals and important relics on display. National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, London SW3 (071-730 0717). Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2pm-5.30pm. Free.

● **Durham walk:** Archaeologist Peter Clark leads the walk, whose

theme is "the stories buildings tell". Meet at the Market Place, Durham. Tomorrow 2pm. Adult 80p, child 40p. No need to book.

NEXT WEEK

● **John Holmes Memorial Lectures:** Three lectures suitable for ten to 16-year-olds on this year's theme, "Measuring the Earth", with Professor Paul Cross from the department of surveying.

● **Curtis Auditorium, Physics Building, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne:** Tues, Wed, Thurs at 5pm. Free tickets by sending s.a.e. to the registrar.

● **Crufts:** The world's prestige dog show, now held in Birmingham. Wednesday, working dogs, obedience and agility; Thursday, terriers and hounds, obedience and agility; Friday, toys and utility, obedience and agility; Saturday, gun dogs and obedience finals, parade of junior international handlers and the Best in Show. Centenary pageant every day. National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (021-780 4141). Wed-Fri, 9am-7pm, Sat 9am-8pm. Adult £8, child £3.

● **The Sixth London Original Print Fair:** Annual event, this year with more than 6,000 original prints spanning five centuries. Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London, W1. Fri-Mon Jan 11, 11am-6pm. Adult £5 (includes catalogue), child, student £2.50.

JUDY FROSHAUGH

Assets

Let there be better light

LIGHTING has come a long way from the 60-watt bulb, yet it is almost a British tradition that homes are wired to provide the worst possible lighting. The classic central pendant is guaranteed to cast an unflattering glare and turn a casual chat under its focus into an official interrogation.

Imaginative new ideas are emerging from contemporary domestic lighting specialists such as Shiu-Kay Kan, a Hong Kong-born designer with a shop in London's Soho.

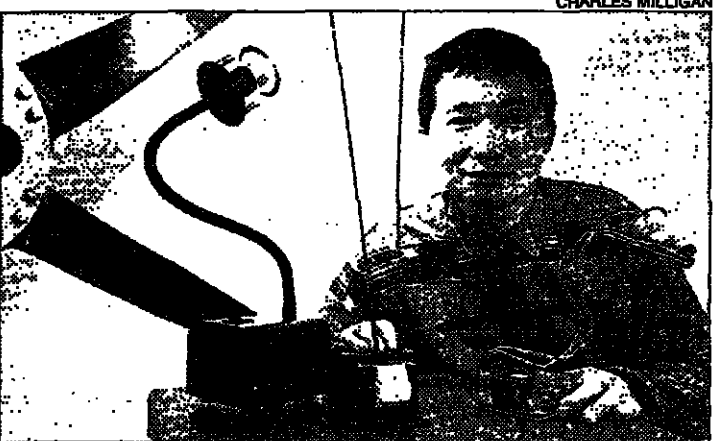
Two years ago, he introduced the world's first robotic light, which tracks across ceiling wires and swivels its "eyes" to cast light where required. The light can be operated with an infrared handset, or programmed to follow a set pattern of movement. It was originally designed for commercial use, but a domestic version priced at about £150 will soon be available.

Mr Kan, an architect, is perhaps best known for his Kite Light, which is made from spinnaker material and has been available since 1979 at design-conscious stores such as London's Co-Existence and the Conran Shop. Another popular SKK light is the slimline Giraffe lamp, which has long, spindly, aluminium legs supporting a small halogen bulb. Mr Kan recently redesigned the light for domestic use, available from this month at about £95.

Mr Kan's interest in environmental problems and alternative energy sources was rekindled by a recent commission to light a house in a remote Greek village with no electricity. Drawing on yacht technology, Mr Kan has come up with domestic lighting powered by wind and sun. Solar panels and a wind generator are used to power batteries capable of energising up to 20 low-voltage lights at the same time for five hours a night.

"It is a low-cost solution, environmentally friendly and requires no power," Mr Kan says. "Your capital investment is about £1,600 and you need to change the batteries about every ten years."

Mr Kan is working on a similar but more complex project in France where free, natural energy will be used not only to light a commercial building, but also to produce the energy to power the air-conditioning, heating and cooking appliances. He is also



Glowing in the wind: architect Shiu-Kay Kan with his wind generator

developing a solar beacon for commercial use in public gardens and car parks, and for use as security lighting.

Anyone confused by the technicalities of energy-efficient, low-voltage lighting could contact John Cullen Lighting, which visits clients' homes to give advice. Sally Storey, the chairman, says: "Low-voltage fittings usually run at 12 volts rather than the mains voltage of 240v. To provide this lower voltage, a transformer is concealed in a ceiling void or cupboard; alternatively, some fittings now have built-in transformers."

"Low-voltage fittings use much smaller lamps and their light beam can be easily controlled and directed. Beam sizes can be varied using dichroic reflectors ranging from a light spotlight of six degrees to a wide floodlight of 60 degrees. Another advantage is that any heat produced by the bulb passes through the back of the reflector, leaving a cool beam

of light — ideal for paintings, plants or in a hot kitchen. "More light per unit of energy is produced by low-voltage fittings. A 12v 20-watt lamp produces about the same amount of light as a traditional 240v 75-watt bulb. Energy efficiency is also combined with a white light from the tungsten halogen lamps used in most low-voltage fittings — the nearest comparable artificial light to daylight."

John Cullen has opened a London showroom devoted to garden lighting. As at the original showroom, various set pieces show a choice of lighting effects created by different combinations of fittings.

Updating an inherited lighting layout often requires specialist advice. Tony Warwick, the manager of Lighthouse in Newcastle, says: "We visit people's homes to help them plan their lighting. It's important to check that electrical systems can take the load if you are installing a lot of new lights."

"Unless you want to keep a decorative plaster rose, we usually suggest getting rid of a central fitting in the living room." Lower ceilings benefit from recessed downlights; floor standing uplighters create a subtle light-and-shadow effect, he adds.

Geoffrey Harris, of London Lighting, adds: "Don't be scared of moving sockets. If you don't like what you've inherited, remove them. And try to select the fittings you like before changing the wiring to make sure you can create the effects you want."

NICOLE SWENGLEY



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Escapees to a slow county

Home from home:
Simon Watson

Ask Simon Watson about his compost heap and he is likely to wax lyrical. It holds a fascination that he finds hard to explain without sounding "deeply pretentious". For the headmaster of Hursley College in west Sussex, the compost heap is one of the enduring delights of escaping to his Norfolk home.

He and his wife, Katie, bought the house 13 years ago with the intention of making it their permanent home. "My secret, undeclared intention was that I was going to change careers and be a writer," Mr Watson, aged 47, says.

The change of career, which was subsidised by the £2,500 he had earned from two published books ("The equivalent of my salary"), lasted just a year. Mr Watson, an Oxford graduate, now prefers to call it a sabbatical. The life, attractive as it was, didn't seem to satisfy all round. He found that he needed more of the "active state" to counteract the "private creative state".

He returned to teaching as head of English at Haileybury College, the boys' public school in Hertford, before taking over as headmaster of Hursley College almost five years ago. But the Norfolk house remained, and the Watsons got into "a routine of escaping" to the little village half an hour's drive from Norwich.

"It is very much home," says Mrs Watson, aged 46, a magistrate and former primary school teacher who works for the Citizens' Advice Bureau. "It's very important to us. We try not to think about it when we're not there because it's so much a part of us now, and it hurts not to be in your home."

Her husband, in particular, undergoes a personality change when he returns to the four-bedroomed red-brick house. "It's as if one is divided into two halves," he explains, "school half and holiday half; the busy administrator half and the quiet, private, creative half." Mrs Watson is less affected. "She's much more flexible," her husband says. "But we both slow down. One of the attractions of Norfolk is that it's a slow county."

During term-time they live in a modern wooden house ("a reinforced orange box", according to Mr Watson), which was erected 14 years ago when the existing, rather more elegant, headmaster's house was converted into a school library. "It's functional," Mr Watson says. "But even though it's got a lot of your own things and it's where you spend most of your time, you are conscious that it isn't your own. It's like living over the shop."

The Sussex Downs, where Mr Watson walks with Clover, his Jack Russell terrier, are a bonus. The clear air lifts his spirits. "The village and the school look like models from there. It helps to put things in perspective."

His ideal would be to transport the Norfolk house to within reach of the Downs. "Norfolk is a long



Retreat to the good life: Simon and Katie Watson, with their two sons Adam and Henry, in the garden of their "real" country home in Norfolk

way from anywhere," Mrs Watson agrees. "It's lovely to be there as long as you don't want to go anywhere else. In Sussex, you can nip up to London in an hour." There are also better walks for Clover in the south. "Although Norfolk is all country, it's very dominated by land-owning interests, so actually Sussex is a lot nicer for dogs and people."

The couple chose Norfolk because "we liked it, and houses

'It's as if one is divided into two halves, school half and holiday half; the busy half and the quiet half'

were cheap", and because Mrs Watson had spent many childhood holidays there. They paid £18,000 for the house and then redecorated it, installed central heating and a period fireplace, stripped the woodwork, turned the larder into a study and added a conservatory. The décor is "Laura Ashley 1977", the furniture a mixture of his and pieces acquired after their marriage. Mr Watson's collection of Victorian and Edwardian children's books dominates the living-room. "It isn't terribly *Homes & Gardens*, really, is it?" he says. "No, it's scruffy," says his wife.

The garden was particularly attractive. "It was at the height of

The Good Life and the whole self-sufficiency thing, and that was deeply exciting to me at the time," Mr Watson says. He got as far as making coffee out of dandelion roots - "but only once". He also makes use of the nettles and ground elder. "People shudder when they see his salads coming," Mrs Watson says. They frequently miss their crops of raspberries and blackcurrants. "It's distressing not being there when a lot of things are doing their thing," Mr Watson says. Friends send them photographs of the climbing rose that covers half the front of the house. The paddock is looked after by Tom, an 86-year-old retired farm labourer who still cuts the grass with a scythe.

Their social life takes place mainly in Norfolk because there they have the time to "pick up" on relationships. "Within three days of being there, Katie knows more of what is going on in the village than most of the people who live there do," Mr Watson says. Their sons, Adam, 18, and Henry, 15, also have friends in the village.

Mr Watson believes the ideal is to have a home in more than one place. "No single place can provide you with everything. I think Sussex is marvellous, but there are tremendous attractions in Norfolk where the pace is slower, the roads are emptier and the sea is nicer. That's what bothers me about retirement, because you have really got to put yourself down in one place, and I think it would be very difficult for us to decide what that one place would be."

SALLY BROMPTON

Country events

THIS WEEKEND

● **Aldeburgh winter concert:** An all-Russian programme performed by the Borodin String Quartet. Music by Borodin, Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky.

● **Snappe Maltings Concert Hall, Aldeburgh, Suffolk.** Tonight 7.30pm. Tickets, bookable £3.80 to £9.80. Box office 0728 453543.

● **Fly-fishing courses:** An early bird may just catch the last worm for this four-week course - places are limited. If fully booked however, another course begins on February 2. Take your own tackle. **Margam Park, Port Talbot.** Today, Jan 12, 10.20, 2-6pm. £12 for the course. Booking and further information, 0639 881635.

● **Third annual Lea Valley winter birdwatch.** Joint venture organised by the Lea Valley Countryside Service and the RSPB for beginners and expert ornithologists of all ages. Guided walks, cormorant watch, mystery competition, practical help with field sketching and an opportunity to make your own bird feeder. Refreshments. **Go to Fishers Green Car Park, end of Stubbings Hall Lane, off the B194 Holyfield Road, Waltham Abbey, Essex.** Tomorrow 10am-4pm. Adult £1, child 50p. Further information 0992 893345.

NEXT WEEK

● **Tatton Park decorative interiors and antiques fair:** Exhibitors in room settings. Items include Victorian and Edwardian town and country furniture and kitchenware. Licensed bar and food. **Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire.** Today, tomorrow 11am-5pm. Admission £3.50, includes catalogue. Further information on 0277 362662.

● **RHS demonstration:** First of the season's specialist lectures and demonstrations with experts in a lecture on bench grafting of decorative trees. **West Midlands RHS Regional Centre, Pershore College of Horticulture, Pershore, Worcestershire (0386 562443).** Wednesday, 2-4pm. Tickets, bookable, £7 non-RHS members, £3.50 members.

● **Dunham Massey concert:** Vocal ensemble sings in a fine 18th century setting. Pre-concert supper and sherry also available. **Dunham Massey Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire.** Friday, 8.15pm. Tickets £3. Supper from 8.45pm, tickets £10. Booking and further information, 061-941 1025.

JUDY FROSHAUG

Farmer's diary: Paul Heiney

That old (large) black magic

I AM starting the new year on an unlucky note, I think. Matters that should have received detailed attention over the festive period have been allowed to slip, and I fear the worst for the coming farming year.

You see, Father Christmas brought me a book of Christmas superstitions in which I stumbled across a reference to the yule log. I have several chunks of tree which no man has been able to split asunder, and any of these logs would have been a prime candidate for the job of yule. Apparently, had I stung it on the fire and allowed it to smoulder for the 12 days of Christmas, saved the ash and sprinkled it with the seed when the corn is sown in the spring, I would have been assured of a bumper crop. I didn't, and now I am worried. Neither did I weave my drunken way round the meadows sprinkling spiced ale, so no doubt we shall have a further year of lacklustre grass to look forward to.

Farming superstitions must be treated with the greatest respect, I believe. Having discovered, while ploughing, several flints with circular holes in them (called hagstones in East Anglia), I could not bring myself to do other

than hang them above the horses in the stable. It was believed that witches came in the night to ride the horses unless the hagstone was there to provide protection. Strangely, we do have a horse which has been found sweating in the morning, as if having been ridden. The vet found nothing wrong with him. It has not happened since the hagstone has been swinging over his stall.

High-technology agriculturalists will, I know, be laughing like a drain at all this. They farm not by the portents, but by their dull "protein analyses" or their tedious "dry matter content" and all the other jargon. But even the high priests of advanced agriculture are beginning to admit there may be forces which are beyond them.

This week, I read that much of the data on which organic farmers base their choice of crops may be suspect. If you are a conventional farmer, you can choose the seed you want by referring to extensive and reliable tests. Organic farmers

look at the same research, but for varieties of seed that resist diseases. This is essential since we cannot use sprays to kill bugs. The tests have been on seeds grown conventionally, however, so when they are used in an organic system they may behave in a completely different way.

I must admit it is easy to be seduced by the velvet voices of modern farming. Even seeds of such dull crops as turnips and cattle beet are sold with all the panache of a box of milk chocolates. I have just read a brochure designed to tempt me away from the mangel-wurzel. This is a vital and traditional crop on our farm: it grows easily all summer, is stored in the autumn and is then fed to sheep, cattle and cart-horses

in the dead days of February and March. It is, to them, like a bite of fresh apple amid a diet of dry mussels. Now I am being offered a "super-new" and "improved" variety. The description, I am sure, was written by the same gentlemen who dream up claims for detergent.

Well, I'm not giving in. Mangels have been the staple winter fodder in these parts for more than a century, and this accumulated wisdom and experience has got to be worth something. It may not be that you can analyse it, but we dismiss the old approach at our peril.

If I have a new year resolution, it is to make ever greater strides backwards. I am doubtful whether futuristic farming has anything to offer that will ever bring farmers to a closer understanding of the mysterious processes of growth. Organic farmers have fought a long battle to dispel an image of themselves as masters of "muck and magic". I can't imagine why. I find farming to be an endless series of magic tricks played out on a well-dunged stage.

On which subject, may I beg a round of applause for Alice, the Large Black sow, who last week produced a litter of 12? It is considered lucky for something black to be first across the threshold in the new year, and I did think of inviting her in... but I decided there might be just a little too much muck mixed with the magic.



Feather report Picking winners in the song contest

I MADE up my mind about my sports personality of 1990 a long time ago. It has taken far longer to work out what should be bird of the year. Do I give the award to the kestrels I see every time I sit at my desk? Or to one of the birds I have seen in a busy year of foreign travel, writing on sport for this newspaper? Or for the birds I have seen at Minsmere bird reserve, in Suffolk, in the past 12 months while researching a book?

The year began with New Zealand: the Commonwealth Games and Buller's mollymawk. Mollymawks are albatrosses, ocean birds, and New Zealand is a place of the open ocean. The long-winged Buller's mollymawk is easily seen as soon as you sail out of Auckland harbour: few birds display such lazy majesty.

Back to Minsmere and the gales, and the memory of a vivid kingfisher hiding in a ditch from the 70mph winds. Then to the Caribbean for the crickets, and an osprey sighted daily overlying the Test match ground in Barbados.

Antigua was better yet, offering a handy salt marsh packed with American waders. Twitters long for the arrival of Britain's first willet, a lanky bird with a piercing call of "willet". I saw hundreds.

Back to Minsmere in spring: the woods were a cacophony of song, and thanks to the chief warden, and Jeremy Sorensen, I learnt to understand it. I accompanied him and members of the Suffolk Wild-life Trust on a 24-hour bird race - the idea is to list as many species as you can in that time. You do not have to see them: identification by sound will do. It was a virtuoso performance from the radar-eared Mr Sorensen: between midnight and dawn he had 100 species. Three, perhaps, had been identified by sight.



Step forward, willow warbler: decoding its lispence of spring

Italy was mostly silent. The Italians shoot songbirds instead of listening to them, so World Cup birding was limited. Still, an alpine swift from a taxi between hotel and airport was a nice bonus. Back again to Minsmere, and the avocets were raising chicks and filling the air with frantic calls. The Dutch call them "klutts" after their call. The marsh hatters, once seriously endangered, had a year of great success, with eight nests getting off 27 chicks. Nearer home, I found breeding whinethroat on the railway embankment and my wife saw a ring-necked parakeet in Wagon Road. Then I took a couple of weeks' holiday and went to Zimbabwe.

BIRDERS who make such trips often send each other bird-lists to inspire agonies of jealousy. I won't go on about crimson-breasted shrike and beetle-eater eagles and all the other wonders. Let me just say that I had the unique experience of contradicting a game guide. "Ah, frogs starting," he said, as a strange sound came from the trees at dusk. "Surely not," I said. "Nightjar." I had listened to that eerie call all through that night of the bird race. To add to my pleasure, a dozen Mozambique nightjar promptly appeared, swooping round the houseboat.

There is no summer in British birds: spring and breeding is followed by autumn and dispersal. The autumnal influx of Bewick's swans at Slimbridge and the coastal passage of Brent geese

were two treats of the year. A trip to America for the baseball brought brown and white pelicans, and then it was back to England and the weather beginning to bite. I got to Minsmere once again just before Christmas. Snow fell in chilly furies. A pair of hen harriers chased each other across the reedbeds.

There, believe it or not, on the saline lagoon called the Scrape, was a greater flamingo. In the snow. Feeding with that ridiculous bill. Making a late, desperate bid for the bird of the year title.

I have seen wonders all over the world, I have returned again and again to the finest reserve in Britain. But what about Wagon Road? Thanks to Mr Sorensen, I have learnt to listen: without seeing a feather I could identify a score of the country's wonderful breeding songbirds.

Step forward, then, willow warbler. Willow warbler wins the award for the lispence of spring: a sound I could hear from a dozen individuals on the stroll between station and home. The song is familiar to almost everyone in the country, but I have been taught to understand it.

SIMON BARNES

● **What's about:** Twitters - Snowy owls, Skagness, Lincolnshire, Parrot crossbills, near Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire and other locations. Further details from Birdline on 0893 700222. Birders - mixed flocks of winter thrushes, fieldfare and redwing from Scandinavia in grassy fields and hawthorn hedgerows.

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Doing the Graces no favours

One unexpected bonus from the recession in the art market is that it could mean a rest for our heritage lobbyists. Last autumn, such tub-thumpers as Marcus Binney of Save (formerly Save Britain's Heritage), Sir Hugh Leggett, the secretary of Heritage in Danger, and Lord Morris of Castle Morris, the chairman of the Museums and Galleries Commission, bemoaned what Sir Hugh calls the "haemorrhaging" of our art. Of 24 export applications since January 1989, only five objects had been "saved".

Now, widespread failure in the auction rooms has dampened the motives which lure millionaires on to the market. There are new opportunities for negotiations by the nation after failed sales, while deals whereby art works are sold to the nation in lieu of tax bills suddenly seem more attractive to vendors. One such deal last year was for four paintings, including two Gainsboroughs, from the estate of Eva Borthwick-Norton, in lieu of a tax demand of more than £6.5 million. Other cases are celebrated in the "Patronage Preserved" exhibition at Christie's in London.

In the short term, however, we must deal with a backlog of masterpieces in suspense along our rickety export system, and teach our second new arts minister in six months, Tim Renton, the system's shortcomings. For 36 years, the system has operated on free market principles. Important art works wanted by overseas collectors have gone before the Reviewing Committee for the Export of Works of Art, which assesses the work's historic and aesthetic value, and makes recommendations to the trade minister. If the work is considered important enough, a temporary export ban is imposed, giving a public gallery the chance to match the offered price. So far so good, if the state produces the cash for the works.

Since 1985, however, the government has refused to unfreeze the purchasing grants of 11 national museums, even though these total only £9 million. Time and again, items have been "stopped" and then released, in what amounts to a long-running farce, for the chances of our museums stumping up the cash are minimal. The Badminton Cabinet story

Trying to save works
of art for the nation
is becoming farcical,
as Sarah Jane
Checkland reports



Tax break: Gainsborough's Mrs Robert Thistlethwaite

shows the guardians of our heritage slipping up on the "stitch in time" principle. This lavish, 11ft edifice in ebony, gilt, bronze and pietra dura, a stone mosaic, was considered the most important piece of furniture in an English private collection when offered to the nation by the Duke of Beaufort for £4 million early last year.

The Victoria & Albert Museum,

however, turned down the approach to buy. Its purchase grant is £1.14 million. So the cabinet went to Christie's, where last summer it broke the world record for furniture, at £8.5 million. It was hoped that the buyer, Barbara Johnson, the Johnson baby products heiress, would lend it to the V & A. In September, however, without the cabinet making any reappearance, she placed her export application.

The news was greeted with silence by the V & A, but action came from the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, where the new director, Simon Jervis, is attempting the impossible by launching an appeal. Mr Jervis has managed to get the export ban extended until March 17. With help from the National Art Collection Fund and the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) he has raised £2.25 million.

Had this been done in round one the shortfall would now be only £1.75 million. Into the same category comes Constable's *The Lock*, which was subject to an abortive, secret attempt at fund-raising by the National Museum of Wales before going on sale at Sotheby's in November. It sold for the same amount at which it had been offered to Wales, £10 million, to Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza.

Two railway paintings by George Earl are examples of the state obliging the market by being both under-bidder at auction and final buyer. The paintings, *Going North, King's Cross Station*, and *Perth Station, Going South*, were acknowledged as the greatest Victorian narrative scenes to be sold in recent times. They came up at Christie's last June, estimated at up to £100,000 each - sums the Science Museum mustered from the NHMF. In the event, they fetched £264,000 and £308,000 respectively, selling to Christopher Wood, the London dealer, with the under-bidder Rupert Maas, on behalf of the Science Museum. The latter had bid to its limit.

That was not the end of the story. Having persuaded its sources to cough up more, the Science Museum then bought the works at Mr Wood's new price of £750,000. It was the most expensive purchase ever made by the



Lost opportunity: the Badminton Cabinet, turned down by the V&A at £4 million, was sold for £8.5 million before an appeal was launched to save it



Constable's *The Lock*: the National Museum of Wales failed in its bid

museum, with a mark-up of £178,000 for the dealer. Mr Wood points out that after the sale he paid for restoration work, and says: "We have sold them for a nominal profit." The paintings are destined for the National Railway Museum, York.

A painting, *Portrait of the Duke of Hamilton*, by Van Dyck demonstrates the problems of making valuations in an erratic market.

The painting was valued at about £4 million by the London dealer Harari & Johns. A separate expert adviser, the committee said the price was too high, and sought a third opinion from Agnews, which has come up with £1.5 million. All concerned are now waiting for the committee's final verdict.

However, the colossus straddling these problems and in-

roducing a new conundrum - the listed building factor - is arguably the most important item of all, Canova's *The Three Graces*.

Admired and decided in equal measure by critics and connoisseurs, the marble lovelies, commissioned in 1819 by the then Duke of Bedford and removed from Woburn Abbey in 1985, have, since last spring, been awaiting their fate in the foyer of the V & A. Unlike fellow members of the heritage trap, their future is no longer with the arts minister or the trade department but the environment department.

This particular saga goes back to 1982 when the Tavistock family offered the work to the government for £1 million, and was refused. Determined to raise funds, the family then says it sold the statue to a company based in the Cayman Islands (believed, incidentally, to be connected with the Tavistock family). The company then exported it temporarily to Washington, where it was much admired in the famous *Treasure Houses of Great Britain* exhibition. In 1989, the company sold the statue to the Getty Museum in California and applied for an export licence, valuing the work at £7.6 million. At this point the fur started to fly.

The V & A started a public appeal which turned into a farce, with only £330,000 raised. Lord Rothschild offered to offset the £7.6 million against the tax from a family legacy, only to be rebuffed. Nicholas Ridley, the then trade

secretary, widened the brief regarding matching of funds to include private buyers, and the Barclays brothers, the Scottish entrepreneurial twins, stepped forward, to protests from Jonathan Scott, the chairman of the reviewing committee, that the system was becoming "an unacceptable charter for speculators".

Meanwhile, the listed building status issue could render all the fund-raising contortions redundant. In early 1989, the environment minister, then Chris Patten, was asked by Save to define the listed buildings status of the statue. According to Save, it was an integral part of the Grade I listed building, and its removal in 1985 had been illegal.

Mr Patten fudged the issue by saying that the statue did come under the listing, but as it had already been moved, that spell had been broken and it had become a chattel. Save decided to take him to court for a judicial review.

This came up last July and lasted only ten minutes after Mr Patten asked for more time for a "fresh decision". The matter now stands in the court of Michael Heseltine, the new environment minister, and a decision is said to be imminent.

What, then, is the answer to an art export system which is patently not working well? A first move could come from the government, which should raise purchase grants to a respectable level.

Cartoons

Now here's a funny thing

THE centenary of the death of Charles Keene is being celebrated in some style this month with exhibitions at the Tate Gallery and Christie's. Keene was the most brilliant draughtsman ever to make his living as a cartoonist and is thus an exceptional case, but it would be pleasing to see in these tributes a realisation that the long tradition of caricature and cartoon in Britain deserves to be taken seriously. Furthermore, the loan exhibition at the World of Drawings and Watercolours Fair at London's Park Lane Hotel, January 23-27, is made up of cartoons.

The first newspaper cartoonist was Sir Francis Carruthers Gould (1844-1925) of the *Westminster Gazette*, but the British tradition of caricature reaches back to the borders of illuminated manuscripts. In the mid 18th century, political and factional satire engaged the talents of such leading artists as Hogarth and Paul Sandby; but the real flowering of the craft came in the last two or three decades of the century, and during the Napoleonic wars, with the Dance brothers, Gillray, Isaac Cruikshank and Robert Dighton.

There were also many able amateur, or semi-amateur, practitioners of the craft. The

first Marquess of Townshend (1725-1807), for instance, was Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and also an excellent caricaturist in pen and ink; and of John Nixon, a merchant who was a great friend of Rowlandson, it was said: "He could sketch a portrait with a few scratches of his pencil, of a party whom he had not seen for 20 years, and with such marked traits of resemblance as to be known at a glance." British caricature has tended to be rather better humoured than French or German, although there have been exceptions, such as James Gillray (1757-1815) and Gerald Scarth today. The royal collection should be rich in Gillray prints, since first impressions were rushed to court for the subjects to learn the worst.

The splendid savagery of Gillray and the uninhibited gusto of Rowlandson were followed by a gentler treatment of politics, as exemplified by the lithographs of John Doyle, who signed his work "HB". With the founding of *Punch* in 1841, the caricaturist became the cartoonist in the modern sense. First Leech and then Tenniel, Keene, Phil, Du Maurier, Harry Furniss and Maurier, have established a tradition of beautifully drawn social and political humour.



Doing an early twist: "As One", a cartoon by H.M. Bateman

which has a successor at the *Times* today in Peter Brookes. The 20th century has tended to concentrate on types, so a Bateman colonel, a Fougasse card player, a Heath Robinson suburbanite - or today, a Steadman genius, a Heath skinhead, a Blake scatterbrain or a Calman little man are generalisations. Obvious exceptions, where types have developed into individual characters, are the Giles family, and the Earl and Countess of Littlehampton by Sir Osbert Lancaster.

The collection at the watercolour fair includes many notable names of the last 150 years such as Du Maurier, Sir Max Beerbohm,

Heath Robinson, Bateman, Nicolas Bentley, Lancaster, Calman and Ronald Searle. There will also be a lecture, "Art and the Banana Skin", on January 24 by Lionel Lambourne, head of painting at the Victoria & Albert Museum and the author of *An Introduction to Caricature*.

With a few exceptions it is fair to class cartoonists as craftsmen rather than great artists, but 100 years ago tomorrow, to mark the death of Charles Keene, this newspaper noted: "For the public he was so much of a humorist that it was apt to forget he was an artist in the first place."

HUON MALLALIEU

From noon to 8pm, and then on Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm, the London Ceramics Fair is at the Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, W1. You can take your precious pots along to an identification service by the experts, John Twitchett and Henry Sandon.

● *Heathcote Ball*, Commercial Street, Northampton (0604 37263). *Dickinson Day & Markham*, 10 Watney Street, Brigg, Humberside (0652 53666). *Nationwide Anglia*, Spalding Road, Bourne, Lincs (0778 422686). *Allen & Harris/Osmond Tricks*, The Planks, Old Town, Swindon, Wills (0793 615915). *Lyon & Turnbull*, 51 George Street, Edinburgh (031 225 4627). *South Bucks Auctions*, 2 School Lane, Old Amersham, Bucks (0494 722758). *Bonhams*, Montpelier Street, SW7 (071 584 9161). *Holloway's*, 49 Parsons Street, Barnbury, Oxon (0295 253197). *Sotheby's Sussex*, Summers Place, Billingshurst, West Sussex (0403 783933). *Bloomsbury Book Auctions*, 3 & 4 Hardwick Street, EC1 (071-833 2636). *Christie's South Kensington*, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7 (071-581 7611).

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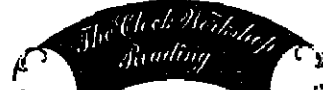
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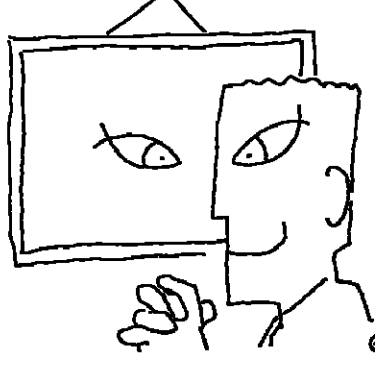
● Today: For irredeemable antique addicts there are a number of "furniture and effects" sales around the country, including: *Heathcote Ball* of Northampton at 9.30am; *Dickinson Day & Markham* at 10am; *Nationwide Anglia* at Bourne in Lincolnshire at 10am; *Allen & Harris/Osmond Tricks* at Swindon 10.30am; *Lyon & Turnbull* of Edinburgh 11am; and *South Bucks Auctions* in the Amersham British Legion Hall 1pm.

● Monday: Fishing, but not one trusts fish, pictures feature at Bonhams for one of its regular sales of "line art".

● Tuesday: Holloway's of Banbury has 450 lots of furniture and collectors' items from 10.30am. The first sale of the year from 10.30am. The first sale of the year from 10.30am. The first sale of the year from 10.30am.

● Friday: January is becoming a month for important fairs in London. Two begin today. The London Original Print Fair, featuring 30 top print dealers from around the world, is at Burlington House until Monday, and is open from 11am to 6pm each day.

● Thursday: Sale of printed books which is mainly strong on topography at



Bloomsbury Book Auctions, starts 1pm.

An hour later Christie's South Kensington follows with the modern equivalent, cameras and photographic equipment. Bonhams takes to the sea - with a sale of marine pictures, starting at 6pm.

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TELEVISION

Hard feelings on the hard shoulder

Lynne Truss reviews a *First Tuesday* documentary about the M25, *The Hangover Show*, *Happy Feet* and *Over My Dead Body*

A yellow-jacketed motorway policeman addresses the camera. "Motorway drivers? Do you want an honest answer?" Cars and lorries hurtle behind him on the rain-soaked tarmac. He has just assisted in the removal of a dead body from the middle of the M25 — but nothing can stop the traffic for long, and he must raise his voice to be heard above the noise. "Motorway drivers are like lemmings," he shouts. "They travel too close and too fast. And here's a quote for you: I'm sick and tired of clearing the prats up."

You could see his point. The message of Paul Berriff's excellent *First Tuesday* (Yorkshire) was that the number of suicidal idiots crazily circling the M25 almost defies belief; and that even if seven maids with seven mops swept it for half a year — well, they would be knocked down by lunatic Volvo drivers the moment they hopped over the crash barrier. *Keep moving, keep moving! He who hesitates gets his name on a bodybag.* Indeed, one of the most terrifying aspects of Berriff's film was the way his camera jogged briskly behind patrol men as they dodged across the lanes — to remove debris, to sweep up shards of windscreens, or to retrieve written-off Citroëns. For viewers of a nervous disposition it felt horribly like being stranded on the carriageway (I would have been grateful if they had explained beforehand that the killer traffic was safely corralled by police colleagues further up the road).

The outburst about being "sick and tired" was uncharacteristic. The patience and equanimity exhibited by these sterling blokes was impressive. Everywhere they look, they see people endangering life — yet, when they caution the offenders, their tone is moderate and almost devoid of reproach. "Now, do you know why I stopped you?" "Yes, I wasn't wearing my seat belt," says a businessman, with a schoolboy shrug. "That's right you weren't wearing your

seat belt. But you were also reading papers on the steering wheel, and you were on the phone."

We watched from a distance while a woman was arrested for drunken driving ("you're kidding me," she bluffed unconvincedly when told she was over the limit); and we peered into cars while expositulating drivers offered blatantly limp excuses for driving at 70 down the hard shoulder. "I've never done this before in my life," said a weak-faced man in spectacles. "I'm a chartered accountant."

This was the week, of course, for making resolutions — for taking one's life in hand. *First Tuesday* was not the only television programme with a cautionary message. Pete McCarthy's one man cabaret, *The Hangover Show* (BBC 2), dealt with a quite different area of experience, but strangely still evoked the nauseous sensation of everything going round and round rather fast, threatening to crash. In general, the show was a disappointment (it probably works better on stage), but I was impressed by McCarthy's recommendations concerning Sir Kingsley Amis — whose advice for dealing with hangovers, we were told, is to "perform the sexual act as vigorously as you can". McCarthy suggests that this fact is worth remembering: after all, if people on their night out paused to imagine themselves waking up alongside Sir Kingsley intent on shedding a hangover, they might stick with the orange juice.

To say that Mike Bradwell's film *Happy Feet* (BBC 1) had a *déjà vu* quality would be less of a compliment than might first appear. I don't mean that the period setting — Scarborough, 1960 — was so exquisitely evoked that I could feel the sand under my eyelids, or see pink beads of candlefloss stuck to my hair. I mean that I felt I had seen it before on a screen — and not just once, either. Another celebration of



Team on the killer track: police patrol members who circle the M25 mopping up "prats" who "travel too close and too fast"

eyeliner and beehive, pre-pubescent crushes and "Wish You Wanted My Love, Baby". The sign over the entrance to the funfair spelled out WODERLAN (it would, wouldn't it?); and there was even a scene where two young boys buy a sanitary towel from a vending machine, and wonder what it is for. "Do you know?" "Course I know. I just wanted to test whether you know."

Phyllis Logan played Dom Jackson, principal of a school of dancing, who has escorted her pupils to an annual dance festival. Her life is unhappy (she says give-away things such as "I sometimes feel I haven't got any inside"); and the crux of the plot is that she nevertheless rejects the chance to escape. Focusing attention on her story, however, was (as Channel 4's Vic Reeves might say)

about as rewarding as chasing a whelk up a flagpole; and it seemed obvious that the reason the camera lingered so long on scenes of the little white-faced totties doing their gauche tap-dances in the room, while the cats streak from the room. There is a climactic moment, when a hand swirls a bowl of dark blue water and leaves it transparent each time I see it I cry out involuntarily "The end of the world is nigh".

Of course, the end of the world probably is nigh. So, in the last remaining weeks, should we be devoting our attention on Friday nights to Edward Woodward in *Over My Dead Body* (BBC 1)? Not if last night's pilot episode is anything to go by. Woodward plays a slightly bogus British crime novelist reluctantly solving murders in San Francisco with a

ingenue reporter called Nicky. Some of the script is spunky ("How do you lose a tail?" asks Nicky. "Evolve!" suggests Woodward) but the whole thing falls uncomfortably between the two stools of funny and ridiculous, with Woodward's performance seeming eerily familiar until you realise he is imitating Michael Caine.

Better, in times of international debacle, to concentrate on the latest series of *Cheers* (Channel 4) — even if it means acknowledging that the lovely Ted Danson (Sam) seems to have aged appreciably since the last series. Perhaps it was unkind to crawl up so close to the screen to make sure, but I do believe his chest hair has turned white.

Lynne Truss will review television each Saturday in The Times

CINEMA

Turnabout highlights the modest

David Robinson on the surprise hits of the American box office

ACCORDING to the venerable American show-business journal *Variety*, which this week publishes its annual report on the box-office successes of the past year, nine American films each grossed more than \$100 million (£51.5 million) in the domestic market alone. This tops last year's record of eight films which broke the \$100 million barrier.

Ghost is the absolute leader with a domestic gross of \$203 million, making it the ninth film in history to pass the \$200 million mark. Its predecessors and peers in this class are *Ghostbusters*, *The Empire Strikes Back*, *Beverly Hills Cop*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Batman*, *Return of the Jedi*, *Star Wars* and *E.T.*, which still holds the box office record of \$360 million in North America alone.

Both *Ghost* and its runner-up, *Pretty Woman*, are, however, about to be dramatically overtaken by *Home Alone*, which has grossed \$126 million in its first six weeks (*Ghost* is in its 25th week) and last week showed a 47 per cent rise in a week.

Nobody would have predicted the success of these films. *Ghost* defied long-established Hollywood wisdom that films about the next life never pay. *Home Alone*, directed by Chris Columbus and produced and written by the master of college comedies, John Hughes, just looked like a children's film for Christmas.

Can these successes signify a turnaround in audience tastes? *Variety* points out that in recent years the top box-office films have been the Steven Spielberg-George Lucas style of massive-budget picture. Among this year's top ten films, only *Die Hard 2*, *Dick Tracy* and *Back to the Future Part III* answer the description of conventional megabuck movies. The others are mostly modest-budget comedies and dramas.

Hollywood accounting is, of course, one of the great economic mysteries. American incomes are the only fairly consistent figures available. The world-wide earnings of a film are much more difficult to assess.

Variety also calculates the domestic rental — that is, the share (usually between 40 and 50 per cent) of a film's income that is returned to the distributor. In the case of *Ghost*, Paramount stands to clear \$94 million, while *Home Alone* has so far made \$80 million for 20th Century Fox.

British films are generally relegated to the art-house circuits, and have no chance of getting into the top rental class. Even so, there is good news for two British films. Jim Sheridan's *My Left Foot* has returned a rental of \$7 million in the United States and Canada, proving the commercial value of an Oscar or two. Peter Greenaway's *The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover*, benefiting from its vaguely scandalous reputation, earned rentals of \$3.9 million for the same distributor, Miramax.

Meanwhile, two new Hollywood pictures which opened over Christmas promise to be among the runaway hits of 1991. Francis Coppola's *Godfather III* grossed more than \$16 million in the Christmas week. Despite the holidays, theatres were crowded for the film. The second newcomer to the charts, *Kindergarten Cop*, with Arnold Schwarzenegger as a muscle-bound policeman worsted by a class of five-year-olds, also took more than \$16 million that week.

This annual stock-taking is not an undiluted record of successes. Sydney Pollack, a producer-director who has hitherto seemed incapable of failure, has just opened *Havana* to poor notices and disastrous box-office. A reworking of the *Casablanca* story, *Havana* appears to demonstrate that its star, Robert Redford, has lost his box-office magic. However, as *Variety* cheerfully remarks, after only a week, *Havana* has already ceded its place as bomb of the year to the Paul Hogan vehicle *Almost an Angel*, which opened last week.

ARTS POLICY

Tough times must never stifle an adventurous spirit

The South Bank received only a standstill grant in the Arts Council's recent allocations, and has been the target of criticism for its "interventionist" artistic policy. Nicholas Snowman, its artistic director, asserts that his mission remains valid

Great works of art do not exist in isolation, devoid of historical and cultural context. They do not simply form part of a "repertoire" set in an eternal constellation. Repertoires change as society and fashions alter. In this respect the art business, with its economically driven demand for new "products", is very different from the music world where, also for economic reasons, the creators are far less in demand than their interpreters. That creates a vicious circle: a relatively small repertoire, composed mainly in the late Classical and Romantic periods, is endlessly recycled.

Museums re-hang their collections to revitalize an environment that has grown too familiar. In music, this process of "re-hanging" has been difficult to achieve. It is not commercially viable. Yet from time to time the desire for something new means that a name from the past can catch the public imagination.

Mahler acknowledged this phenomenon. "My time will come," he said. Schoenberg said the same of Zemlinzky, and others have said it of Schoenberg. Berlioz, Janáček and, above all, Mahler, are examples of composers whose time seems to have arrived. The South Bank's advocacy of Schoenberg has led, pleasingly, to a steady increase in performances of his works, and our festival of devoted to Szymanowski also devoted to have moved this composer from the "reserve" to the permanent collection.

Central to this expansion of the repertoire is a belief in putting living composers at the centre of artistic planning. Composers such as Reich, Messiaen, as Birtwistle, Ligeti and Maxwell Davies have been invited to programme their own works in South Bank series reflecting their interests. Others who will be collaborating in this way include Elliott Carter, artists of the Third Viennese School, and Berio.

There has been some controversy about this commitment to contemporary music. At a time when discussion of the arts modulates ever more quickly into financial considerations, it is clearly necessary to be unequivocal about both artistic intentions and financial consequences. The South Bank's "strategic intervention" in programming, using its

own limited funds, in fact concerns no more than around 20 per cent of musical activity in the centre. Naturally such intervention is directed at the less commercial end of concert life.

Over the last few years we have tried to reconcile artistic variety, quality and adventurousness with financial realities. The radical change at the South Bank from being passive "garage" to pursuing an active artistic policy, in which different art forms were linked for the first time, has taught us a number of lessons. One of the most important was an appreciation of the costs that result from implementing ambitious artistic policies, affecting everything from marketing to overtime. The cost of the "dark nights", to rehearse theatrical and other complex events, was a further consideration.

Such costs, along with urgently needed capital investment and a cut in our grant, led to a deficit in the 1988/89 financial year. Like other arts organisations we reduced the volume of our activities. Thus in the 1990/91 financial year we achieved a reduction of 30 per cent in our accumulated deficit; the present financial year will see a similar or better result. We are, in short, well on the way to eliminating our deficit without as yet sacrificing the nature of our artistic policy, despite the steepening decline in the real value of our subsidy. So far, radical surgery has not killed the patient.

In 1986 we transformed the Queen Elizabeth Hall into a facility able to welcome staged events as well as traditional classical concerts. Average attendances last season were equal to the highest previously on record, brought about by a new artistic mix which includes dance programming, staged opera, jazz and world music through collaborations with companies like Opera Factory and Dance Umbrella. A similar change was made in the Purcell Room. The result has been that these venues are no longer referred to as "the other halls" and their audiences have been growing in both variety and number.

Now there should be a similar evolution in the Royal Festival Hall. Berlioz wrote, as long ago as 1847: "It is the English who have raised the art of high-speed musi-



Snowman: "So far, radical surgery has not killed the patient"

cal studies to a pitch of glory unsuspected by other nations... I realise that these are the sad results of the force of circumstance. But what is more deplorable is that in English theatres, this ruthless haste in rehearsing any musical production is becoming a habit and is even being transformed by some people into a special and praiseworthy talent. By appointing a resident orchestra which will be able to rehearse in the hall, with a music director who has effective powers, there should be a real chance to achieve at last the quality of music-making to rival that of Europe's great musical capitals.

One fundamental innovation proposed by the new South Bank Centre five years ago was to establish an environment where different art forms could work together. There have been many fruitful collaborations since. The

Hayward Gallery's Le Corbusier exhibition was complemented with music by Varèse and Xenakis; the work of Sergei Eisenstein was celebrated by the National Theatre and by our exhibitions department. The National Theatre made its first appearance in the concert halls in Berlioz's *Béatrice et Bénédict*. Harrison Birtwistle and Tony Harrison worked together in *Bow Down* at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. And nothing could represent better the adventure of such collaboration than the "Towards the Millennium" project which will link Birmingham and the South Bank over the next ten years.

Simply to transpose a principle such as "re-hanging" from one art form to another, effective though it may be, would be a mechanical operation. The real excitement comes from the living examples of different art forms coexisting.

MUSIC ON TELEVISION

Return of the saint

THE television biography, at least where composers are concerned, is a form as circumscribed as the medieval saint's vita, perhaps because in both cases the aim is to present the subject as exemplary, so that events and traits of character are important principally for the lessons and models they provide. Of course, the subject is exceptional; otherwise he or she would not have been chosen. But the exceptionalism is of a well-recognised and formulated kind.

There are even areas where the qualities required for saints and for composers overlap: unstinting dedication, whether to God or to art, is a definite necessity. Some sort of martyrdom helps, probably achieved by composers at the beginnings of their lives, in a difficult childhood or harsh education, rather than at the end. Then there will be miracles: the composer's works, prominently set on display as the triumphs and evidence of genius and of a lifetime of service.

Mark Ridel's film on Iannis Xenakis, *Something Rich and Strange*, to be shown tonight on BBC 2, fits the format perfectly. Xenakis's martyrdom came through the death of his mother when he was six, his banishment to boarding school, and the facial wound he received fighting with the partisans as a student in Athens.

Witnesses — his wife, a couple of performers and two devoted biographers — are brought forward to insist on his idealism, originality and strength of commitment, while his own words, characteristically sparse, sketch a portrait of determined independence and physical bravery. This is a man who, at 70, seeks the challenge of ocean canoeing, a man whose screen look is as

tough and glinting as granite. Of course, there is also plenty of music, covering the ground from the mid-1950s to the late 1980s, and from virtuoso solos to orchestral and dramatic pieces, though curiously omitting his electronic music and work with digital programming.

But while it instances its genre so commendably fully, Ridel's film does have some special distinctions. There are effective and beautiful equivalents, usually visual (a flight of birds, a shoal of fish), for Xenakis's way of creating mass effects. In particular, the rippling of white reflections into the darkness of a sea cave folds over nicely into the flickering of ivory through ebony as Roger Woodward's fingers race over the piano in a paroxysm of virtuosity; the haphazard clangs of goat bells provide an example of Xenakis taken from nature.

There is also valuable archive material: a performance of the *Oresteia* with Xenakis's music in the ruins of Mycenae, and the raising of the Philips pavilion, which the young musician-engineer designed while working for Le Corbusier.

Some continuity through all this is provided by shots of Xenakis returning, after half a century, to his school on Spetsai, and if the composer remains taciturn and unsmiling — except when reciting the lines which give the film its title — that in itself is revealing. Memories, he says, are made to be forgotten, and his music, with its refusal to remember western culture, his own previous output or even earlier parts of itself, bears him out.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

● Something Rich and Strange is on BBC 2 tonight at 8pm.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

A seasoned campaigner

"McKellen is one of those actors who change their entire faces and bodies from role to role. When I went to see him at his little riverside house in the East End, the brutal, patrician face and ramrod military posture of Richard III — twisted into unnatural stiffness to conceal the greater distortion of soul and body beneath the uniform — had collapsed in lanky exhaustion. 'I am very, very tired,' he said."

Sir Ian McKellen interviewed in *The Sunday Times* tomorrow.

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7.00 Crystal Tipps and Alistair. Animated tale about a girl and her dog (r) 7.05 Janosch's Story Time. Cartoon (r) 7.30 Barber. Cartoon version of the classic children's story about an elephant.

7.55 Eggs 'n' Baker. In the first of a new series of the food and music programme Cheryl Baker eats an Indonesian meal in a restaurant run by children in Amsterdam and there is a visit to a mushroom manufacturer. Music is provided by the High and, making their television debut, Temper Temper 8.35 BraveStarr. Space-age western cartoon (r)

9.00 Going Live! Guests include Ian Smith and Anne Charleston from the Australian soap *Neighbours*, Radio 1 DJ Steve Wright and Darren Day from *Clockwise* 12.12 Weather

12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.20 and 12.55 Football: a preview of this afternoon's third round of the FA Cup; 12.40, 1.10 and 1.40 Racing from Haydock; 1.05 News; 1.25 Siding: the men's downhill from Garmisch; 1.55 Ice Hockey: Cardiff Devils v Murrayfield Racers; 2.55 Cyo-cross: the General Portfolio national championships from Harlow; 3.50 Football half-time; 4.00 Cricket: highlights of the second day's play in the third Test between Australia and England in Sydney; 4.40 Final Score

5.05 News with Philip Hayton. Weather

5.15 Regional News and Sport. Wales (to 6.05): Wales on Saturday

5.20 The Flying Doctors. Understanding Australian series about the country's flying doctor service. Chris and Geoff get involved in a family conflict when two men deny knowing each other despite a woman's insistence that they are brothers. (Ceefax)

6.05 Challenge Anneka. The hyperactive Anneka Rice is called upon to tackle the renovation of a Methodist chapel in Telford to provide short-term accommodation for homeless youngsters. (Ceefax)

6.55 'Allo 'Allo! All the old jokes are brought out and dusted down for a new series of the French resistance farce starring Gordon Kaye and Carmen Silvera. Newly-weds Fanny and Leclerc are sent to jail by the Germans for trying to escape to Spain by a balloon-borne boatload. René's initial delight is dampened when Edith decides to rescue her mother and new stepfather. (Ceefax)



Conjuring up more tricks of the trade: Paul Daniels (7.25pm)

7.25 The Paul Daniels Magic Show. In the first of a new series Daniels saws his other half, Debbie McGee, in half and is joined by the aerobically fit Ashton family from Las Vegas, for whom he organises an unexpected family reunion, and two members of Canada's Cirque du Soleil. (Ceefax)

8.10 Bergerac. John Nettles returns for a final series as the former Jersey sleuth, Jim Bergerac. At least it is supposed to be the final series, but that's what they said six years ago. Jim has left the Bureau des Enquêtes and is living a lotus eater's existence with his girlfriend Danielle (Therese Liotard) in the vineyards of Provence. But his rural peace is broken when Danielle's cousin, a clothes designer, invites him to a fashion show in Aix-Provence and is subsequently accused of murdering a client. (Ceefax)

9.05 News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Sport and weather

9.25 Midnight Caller. A Switch in Time. New series which sees Gary Cole back as the cop turned late-night radio chat show host Jack Killian. In the first of a two-part story, Jack is blamed for a hit-and-run accident in which a woman loses her life. Also stars Wendy Kilbourne and Arthur Tadoe. (Ceefax)

10.15 Match of the Day. The World to Wembley. Desmond Lynam introduces highlights from three of this afternoon's matches from the third round of the FA Cup

11.25 Film: Electra Glide in Blue (1972). Robert Blake stars as John Wintergreen, a diminutive motor cycle policeman who has aspirations of becoming a detective. In this off-beat cop movie, when Wintergreen discovers a dead body, apparently a suicide victim, he becomes convinced that the man has actually been murdered. The detective in charge of the case starts to believe the murder theory and Wintergreen is taken on as a driver, with the promise that he will be taught about the various aspects of detective work. Shot in spectacular Arizona locations, the film is a freshly observed drama in which action and violence are mixed with biting humour. With Mitch Ryan and Billy Green Bush. Directed by James William Guercio 1.15am Weather

9.00 Open University

10.55 Homer's Egypt. The civilisation of ancient Egypt is explored and explained by John Homer (r) 11.35 Made By Man. The skill of Dutch craftsmen in restoring old film to its former glory is examined (r) 11.50 The Homeymooners (b/w). Classic American comedy. The first of this afternoon's two films starring Cary Grant sees one of Hollywood's most debonair leading men playing a successful New York advertising executive who decides to move with his wife and two children into the country and finds that the grass is not necessarily greener. With Myrna Loy and Melvyn Douglas. Directed by H.C. Potter

1.45 Animation Now. Is it Always Right to be Right? narrated by Orson Welles

1.55 Under the Sun: Masks of Arcadia. The plight of a once-prosperous Japanese family in a northern rice-farming village (r) 2.45 *Mahabharat*, absorbed 32 cycles, dramatisation of India's epic poem, in Hindi with English subtitles

3.25 Animation Now. The Legend of Paul Bunyan

3.35 Film: The Pride and the Passion (1957) starring Cary Grant, Frank Sinatra and Sophia Loren. Dour Napoleon drama based on the C.S. Forester novel *The Gun on the Wall* in 1810 with Grant as a British new officer who is ordered to commandeer a huge cannon abandoned by the Spanish army. Directed by Stanley Kramer

5.45 Prepare for Crash Landing. How lives might be saved and serious accidents significantly reduced if simple changes were made to aircraft safety

6.15 Data. Highlights from this afternoon's first round matches in the Embassy world professional championship

7.15 NewsView and weather

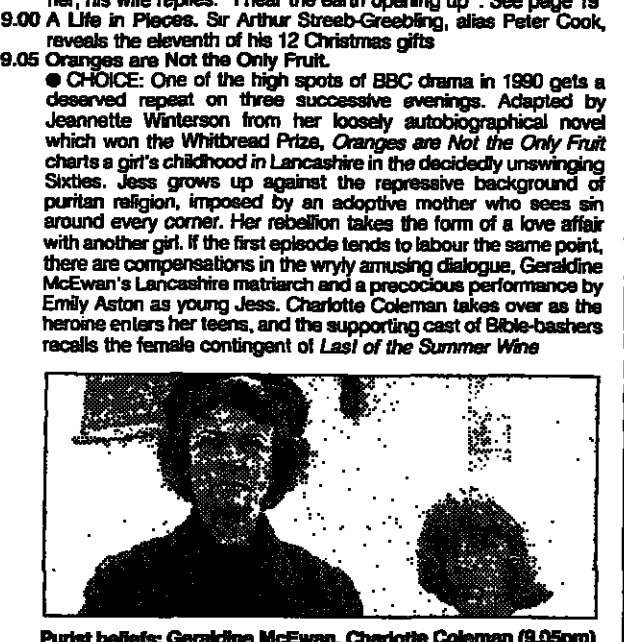
8.00 Something Rich and Strange: The Life and Music of Ianis Xenakis

© CHOICE: Xenakis's work is certainly strange, but hardly rich, and the music that he wrote and composed is hardly music at all. Mark Kidel's profile may confuse rather than illuminate by setting examples of the Xenakis repertoire against real landscapes which seem to contradict its abstract nature. But those who find difficulty with the works should be fascinated by the life. Xenakis lives the cliché of the Renaissance man, having private and professional interests in physics, mathematics, philosophy and astronomy, not to mention the plays of Shakespeare. As an architect he worked with the great Le Corbusier and was responsible for the daringly innovative Philips Pavilion for the 1958 Brussels World Fair. Apparently suppressing passion, his music evokes passionate reactions. Asked what feelings it produces in her, his wife replies: "I hear the earth opening up."

9.00 A Life in Pieces. Sir Arthur Streeb-Greiffing, alias Peter Cook, reveals the eleven of his 12 Christmas gifts

9.05 Oranges are Not the Only Fruit.

© CHOICE: One of the high spots of BBC drama in 1990 gets a deserved repeat on this successive evenings. Adapted by Jeanette Winterson from her loosely autobiographical novel which won the Whitbread Prize, *Oranges are Not the Only Fruit* charts a girl's childhood in Lancashire in the decidedly unwelcome of puritan religion, imposed by an adoptive mother who sees sin around every corner. Her rebellion takes the form of a love affair with another girl. If the first episode tends to labour the same point, there are compensations in the witty and amusing dialogue. Gerald McEwan's Lancashire dialect and a precocious performance by Emily Aston as young Jess. Charlotte Coleman takes over as the heroine enters her teens, and the supporting cast of Bible-bashers recalls the female contingent of *Last of the Summer Wine*



Purist beliefs: Geraldine McEwan, Charlotte Coleman (9.05pm)

10.00 Film: Apocalypse Now (1979). Francis Coppola's epic drama of the Vietnam war inspired by Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* with Martin Sheen sent into the Cambodian jungle to "eliminate" a renegade colonel (Marlon Brando), who has formed his own private army. The film combines scenes of great power with moments of pretentiousness and Brando's mumbling performance is not to all tastes. (Ceefax)

12.25am Darts. Highlights from the world professional championship at the Lakeside Country Club, Frimley Green. Ends at 1.30

6.00 TV-am

9.25 Portsmouth presented by Neil Buchanan. Gaby Roslin and Andy Crane, who were joined by Olympic runner Roger Black, who offers the three presenters some advice on how to stay in shape, and members of the National Youth Theatre

11.30 The ITV Chart Show

12.30 Saint & Greaves

1.00 News (Oracle) and weather 1.05 LWT News and weather

1.10 Grand Sportsmasters. Dicky Davies introduces the first round of the sports quiz between past winners

1.40 World Sport Special. Fast moving sports action from around the globe. Followed by The Day. A crucial 24 hours in the life of an average member of the public (r)

2.10 The Tennants West Highland Yachting Week narrated by Iain Cuthbertson

3.05 Snooker: The Mercantile Credit Classic. Tony Francis introduces play from the International Leisure Centres snooker series, the first of 1991, reaches its last sixteen stage.

4.45 Results Service with Elton Wesley

5.00 News and weather 5.05 LWT News and weather

5.15 Cartoon Time

5.25 Catchphrase. Celebrity Special. Roy Walker hosts a special edition of the game show

5.55 Film: Beverly Hills, 90210 (1989). Jason Priestly, Shannen Doherty and James Eckhouse star in this film introducing a new series which - however dreadful it might sound - is supposed to be kind of cross between *Baywatch* and *Dynasty*. Directed by Tim Hunter. (Oracle)

7.45 Blind Date. Cilla Black hosts another edition of the dating game. (Oracle)

8.45 News, sport and weather 9.00 LWT Weather

9.05 Palmer.

© CHOICE: A feature-length pilot from a *Minder* writer, Tony Hoare, introduces a Brighton-based private detective, Eddie Palmer (Ray Winstone). One day there will be a television series about a private eye who speaks like a news reader, is good at his job and happily married. But Eddie fits the more conventional mould of rough diamond, professional competence and a messy private life. Hoare tries to distract from the stereotype by giving Palmer an office full of oddballs, including a gambling addict (Gerard Horan), an aspiring actress (Louise Plowright) who dresses up as Marilyn Monroe and a perky secretary (Dora Bryan). Other eccentric characters fit in and out and it is the sort of show in which even the solicitor turns out to be a transvestite. At times the joke is overdone and tends to jar with the main plotline, which involves the detective agency in a child custody battle. (Oracle)



Private eyes: Gerard Horan (left), and Ray Winstone (9.05pm)

10.40 The Trouble with Agatha Christie.

© CHOICE: Michael Aspel hosts a trailer for the new series of *Agatha Christie*, which begins tomorrow, by getting an audience of celebrities to give their assessment of the writer whose books are outsold only by the Bible. The psychiatrist Dr Anthony Clare threatens to spoil the party with a scathing appraisal of Christie in which he describes her characters as "about as psychologically interesting as the Muppets". Sir Peter Ustinov, the cinema *Poirot*, unapologetically bites the hand that handsomely feeds him by saying more or less that he finds Christie unreadable. But there are plenty of witnesses for the defence, as well as clips from films and archive contributions from Tony Hancock and *Monty Python's Flying Circus*. Despite his strictures, Dr Clare comes nearest to the heart of the matter when he talks of the Christie books as being fairy tales in which ends are neatly tied and good always triumphs.

11.40 Snooker: The Mercantile Credit Classic. Further coverage

12.30am The Winds of War. Part two of the epic serial war mini-series adapted from Herman Wouk's novel (r)

2.30 Film: The Memory of Eva Ryker (1980). Stylish mystery starring Natalie Wood, Robert Foran and Roddy McDowall about a multi-millionaire who attempts to salvage the liner on which his beautiful wife perished when the ship was torpedoed at the outbreak of the second world war. Directed by Walter E. Grauman 5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

6.00 Comic Book 7.30 News summary 7.35 International Times. ITN correspondents from around the world report on news stories

8.00 Trans World Sport. International sporting news and interviews

9.00 News summary 9.05 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line

9.30 Listening Eye: Signs of Our Times. The programme celebrates the lives and the achievements of the British deaf community and allows deaf people to tell their own story in their own way (r) (Teletext)

10.00 Masters of Taste: Mad about Fish. Janis Robinson presents a six-part series on food and drink. The first programme features William Black, a young Englishman who works in Boulogne, Europe's largest fish market, and follows him on his weekly trip to London to deliver fish to the top restaurants (r)

10.30 Batman and Robin (b/w). Episodes 12 and 13. Starring Robert Lowery and John Duncan as the dynamic duo

11.10 The Adventures of Tintin. Episode eight of *The Crab with the Golden Claws*

11.25 Tony Jacklin's Pro-Celebrity Golf Challenge. Actor Jason Connery partners Ronan Rafferty for the Entertainers and former rugby union star Gareth Edwards teams up with Sam Torrance for the Sportsmen. Presented by Tony Jacklin from Le Touquet, France

12.25 American Football: Red 42 (r)

12.55 Channel 4 Racing from Sandown Park. John Francombe introduces live coverage of the Fairtime Novices hurdle (1.00), the George Wigg Memorial Novices chase (1.30), the Anthony Mckinstry, Peter Cazelet Memorial chase (2.00), and the Baring Securities Tolworth hurdle (2.30). The race commentator is Graham Goode

3.00 Film: Love Story (1944, b/w). Margaret Lockwood plays a concert pianist and composer who discovers that she has a weak heart and only a few months to live. Refraining to Cornwall she falls in love with a mining engineer (Stewart Granger). Tragedy piles upon tragedy when Lockwood discovers that not only is the man with whom she is in love gradually but steadily going blind as a result of his service in the RAF, but also another girl is desperately in love with him. The delicate performances of the stars help to mask a melodramatic plot and the musical interludes, including the Cornish Rhapsoody, heighten the sense of romance and doom. Directed by Leslie Arliss

5.05 Brookside. Omnibus edition of the soap opera about the residents of a suburban cul-de-sac in Liverpool. The close prepares for the arrival of 1991 and the Dixons decide to throw a party (r). (Teletext)



Dragon slayer: Siegfried Jerusalem as Siegfried (6.30pm)

6.30 News and weather followed by *Opera On 4: Der Ring des Nibelungen. Siegfried.* Wagner's epic opera continues with the third part of the "Ring" cycle. The production is the staging by Otto Schenk at the Metropolitan Opera, New York, and incorporates "romantic realism" says by Gunter Schneider-Siemssen. It is directed by the Met's artistic director, James Levine, and features some of the biggest names of the international operatic scene such as Hildegarde Behrens, Siegfried Jerusalem, James Morris and Heinz Zednik

11.15 Film: Bedazzled (1967). Peter Cook stars as the Devil and Dudley Moore as the man whose soul he buys in exchange for seven wishes in this picaresque comedy which draws upon the Faustian legend. Moore uses his seven wishes to try to win the love of his life, a waitress played by Eleanor Bron, but they all seem to have the unfortunate knack of turning sour on him. Raquel Welch also makes a brief appearance as Lilian Lusk, one of the Seven Deadly Sins, whom Moore encounters on his quest for true love and happiness. Although not all of the humour hits its mark, there are enough fast flying jokes to ensure that the laughter is maintained. Directed by Stanley Donen. Ends at 1.00am

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

© Via the Astra and Maroon Polo satellites. 6.00am Cricket: The Ashes Tour Live. Second day, first Test 7.00 Cricket Highlights 7.30 Fun Factory 11.00 The Bionic Woman 12.00 Beyond 2.00am Comedy 2.00 WWF Wrestling Challenge 3.00 Cool Cuts 5.00 Chopper Squad 7.00 Parker Lewis 8.30 The Addams Family 8.00 Free Spin 7.30 In Living Color 8.00 Chris Brown 10.00 Uninvited Myelones 11.00 Ozzy Osbourne 12.00 Cricket: The Ashes Tour Live Third day, third Test

SKY NEWS

© Via the Astra satellite. News on the hour. 5.30am Beyond 2.00am 6.00am Beyond 6.30 The Reporters 7.00am 8.00am Beyond 8.30am Beyond 9.00am Beyond 9.30am Beyond 10.00am Beyond 10.30am Beyond 11.00am Beyond 11.30am Beyond 12.00am Beyond 12.30am Beyond 1.00am Beyond 1.30am Beyond 1.50am Beyond 2.00am Beyond 2.30am Beyond 2.50am Beyond 3.00am Beyond 3.30am Beyond 3.50am Beyond 4.00am Beyond 4.30am Beyond 4.50am Beyond 5.00am Beyond 5.30am Beyond 5.50am Beyond 6.00am Beyond 6.30am Beyond 6.50am Beyond 7.00am Beyond 7.30am Beyond 7.50am Beyond 8.00am Beyond 8.30am Beyond 8.50am Beyond 9.00am Beyond 9.30am Beyond 9.50am Beyond 10.00am Beyond 10.30am Beyond 10.50am Beyond 11.00am Beyond 11.30am Beyond 11.50am Beyond 12.00am Beyond 12.30am Beyond 12.50am Beyond 1.00am Beyond 1.30am Beyond 1.50am Beyond 2.00am Beyond 2.30am Beyond 2.50am Beyond 3.00am Beyond 3.30am Beyond 3.50am Beyond 4.00am Beyond 4.30am Beyond 4.50am Beyond 5.00am Beyond 5.30am Beyond 5.50am Beyond 6.00am Beyond 6.30am Beyond 6.50am Beyond 7.00am 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CHANNEL 4

in committing a bank robbery. The film cleverly maintains audience concern for the plight of the victim, while creating a fascination with the mind of the psychopath. Directed by Blake Edwards, who is better known for the *Pink Panther* series. (Oracle)

12.20am American Football Update Mick Luckhurst returns with the latest news and highlights of the second of the evening's play-offs. Also features news and summaries from the rest of the weekend's First Round play-off matches

12.50 Dire Straits: Alchemy Live Dire Straits in concert, recorded in 1983. Ends at 1.50.

LIFESTYLE

- **Via the Astron satellite**
12:00 *Captain Power* 12:30pm *WKRP in Cincinnati* 1:00 *The Joan Rivers Show* 1:50 *Formula One* 2:45 *Spain Sports International* *Cinebras* 3:00 *Wrestling* 4:00 *Rosely Jones* 4:25 *Film: Panda* 5:00 *The Selfie-Vision Shopping Channel* 8:00 *JSTV* 10:00 *The Selfie-Vision Shopping Channel* 12:00 *Satellite Jubilee*

8:00 *She's Having a Baby* *Kevin Bacon* and *Elizabeth Berkley* as newly-weds
10:00 *Bright Lights, Big City* The musical ventures of a young journalist threatened by 75 million New York
12:00 *Quicksilver* Kevin Bacon becomes entangled in a nuclear plot
1:55pm 5 New Line A musical look at the difficulties faced by divorcees (Alvin Karpis and Ann-Margret) Ends at 3:40

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

- **Via the Maripso Polo satellite**
12:40pm *The Return of Joe Forrester* A 12-man film. *Grandpa* (Bud Brainerd) dons a uniform to help solve a series of crimes
2:10 *The Hurling* The story of a doomed love affair between a chauffeur (Robert Shaw) and an aristocrat (Sarah Miles)
4:10 *Christine* *Crumb* *Things That Go Bump in the Night* *Shogun* *Shogun* 6:00 *Leone* *My 1000 Children* The true story of a Jewish teacher who took 100 children from Polish Poland to Israel

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

- **Via the Maripso Polo satellite**
3:00pm *Sportsweek* 10:00 *Scottish Football Magazine* 11:00 *FA Cup* 1:00pm *Football Magazine* 1:15 *Football* 3:30 *Bowling* 5:30 *FA Cup* 6:15 *Scottish League* 8:15 *FA Cup* 10:00 *Sportsweek* 10:00 *Scottish Football Magazine* 11:30 *Gerard Williams Talks To* 12:00 *Sportsweek* 12:30pm *FA Cup*

THE POWER STATION

- **Via the Maripso Polo satellite**
7:00-3:45pm *Rock* and *pop*

happiness she deserves

For Maura Pangilinan from the Philippines, picking rice in the paddy fields was her only source of income until failing health stopped her from working.

Her two children were too poor to support her, and Maura became terrified of her future. Now, thanks to a family from the UK who sponsor her, Maura can face the future without fear.

For just £2 a week they provide Maura with the basic essentials of life such as food and medicine. What's more, the same money also supports community projects which help other elderly people in need.

By sponsoring a grandparent you too can turn misery and despair into health and happiness.

Please help to care for an elderly person like Maura today.

Post the coupon to: Adopt a Granny, Room 91202, Help the Aged, FREEPOST, London, EC1B 1BD.

Yes, please tell me more about sponsoring a gran or grandad.

(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Send to: Cindy Sales-Ortiz.

Adopt a Granny, Room 91202

Help the Aged, FREEPOST.

London, EC1B 1BD

Reg. Charity No. 217346

**Help the Aged
Adopt a Granny**

Libya supplied gun that killed Sheehy

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE gun that killed Patrick Sheehy was supplied to the IRA by Colonel Gaddafi. Irish police said last night that the Spanish-made Taurus 9mm semi-automatic was similar to guns recovered over the years which were delivered to the IRA in shipments from Libya between 1985 and 1986.

Sheehy, who was suspected of involvement in IRA bomb attacks in Britain over the past three years, was found dead with a single gunshot wound to the head outside Nenagh post office, Co Tipperary. In spite of speculation that he committed suicide he is to be buried today in consecrated

ground at Beigh cemetery after funeral mass in his village of Ballysteen, Co Limerick. In Ireland, suicides are commonly buried within the church and coroners' courts often go out of their way to avoid suicide verdicts, preferring accidental death.

Tight security is expected at the funeral amid reports of tension between Sheehy's family and local IRA figures over plans for paramilitary displays at the graveside. Local IRA members said that masked gunmen in paramilitary uniform fired three volleys early yesterday in a churchyard near Ballysteen as a

mark of respect for their colleague. No mention was made of difficulties with the family. Republican sources said that the volleys were fired to avoid confrontation with police during the burial.

Other republican sources were quoted as dismissing claims that Sheehy killed himself because of a rift with leading IRA figures, or that he might even have been killed by the IRA. Sources in Dublin said that the IRA claimed responsibility for executing its own members. "If Sheehy had crossed the organisation, he would have been court-martialed and dealt with accordingly. The IRA would have no hesitation in proclaiming that," the source said that Sheehy was regarded as a committed volunteer.

With the results of a post-mortem and ballistics tests on the gun not expected until next week, Sheehy's death officially remains an open case. However, it was widely being accepted last night that he had committed suicide, as was at first suspected by police. Rumours suggest that one of the IRA's top gunmen and bombmakers could not have died by his own hand. Suggestions for those responsible have ranged from members of his own organisation, to a loyalist or even an SAS hit squad, none of which seems likely at this stage.

One interpretation of his death which is gathering momentum centres on an Irish special branch undercover operation aimed at capturing Sheehy which was said to be closing in on him. Sheehy had reportedly boasted that he would never be taken alive and possibly chose to kill himself rather than face the prospect of the rest of his life behind bars.

● Campaigners for the release of four Ulster Defence Regiment soldiers they believe were wrongly convicted of murder are to hand a dossier of new evidence to RUC officers investigating the case.

The decision to hand over the file comes after the announcement that a senior police officer is to investigate written statements taken from the soldiers by police officers before their trial in 1986. The four are serving life sentences for the murder of Adrian Carroll, a Catholic, in Armagh in 1983.



Showing a leg: the Japanese synchronised swimming team practising at the World Swimming Championships in Perth, Australia, yesterday. Report, page 28

Heseltine poll tax cushion in doubt

Continued from page 1

term strategy for reform. The disclosure that ministers were close to making a fundamental change in the objectives of the poll tax review came as the prime minister announced yesterday that he would meet senior council leaders early in the spring.

The meeting will focus on the worsening relationship between central and local government, which has been strained to breaking point by the poll tax and charge capping.

In a letter to the chairmen of the associations of county, district and metropolitan councils, John Major said: "I entirely accept the importance of getting the relationship between central and local government right."

The decision to meet the municipal leaders reflects the seriousness with which Mr Major regards the threat to Conservative election prospects posed by the current state of local government finance. With local elections due in May and the prospect of a general election later this year, Mr Major is being urged by his backbenchers to take urgent action. Sir Rhodes Boyson, Conservative MP for Brent North and a former local government minister, said: "There has to be something to help people before April."

"We have raised expectations and if we do not fulfill them we will pay the price in the May local government elections. A serious defeat in May would dent Conservative confidence most terribly."

"Before April we must have long-term commitments so that people know that there is a lifeboat coming and there must be measures to wipe out the worst anomalies now." In particular, Sir Rhodes called for non-working wives and elderly people being cared for at home to be exempted from the poll tax. He also urged reduced levels of poll tax for adult children living at home.

The annual revenue support grant settlement, detailing government grants for councils from April, will be laid before Parliament on January 14, and local authority leaders had hoped to see interim changes announced at the same time. The environment department said yesterday that no final decision had yet been made.

Best-selling Fiesta recalled for checks

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S best-selling car is being recalled for emergency checks on a fault which could allow toxic exhaust fumes to enter the passenger cabin.

Owners of 187,000 Ford Fiesta models have been receiving letters from the company over the Christmas holiday, warning them to take their cars to their local dealer so that the fault to a ventilation flap could be rectified, if necessary.

The recall of the Fiesta, built at Dagenham, Essex, is the latest embarrassment to afflict Ford and is thought to be one of the biggest recalls of a new car in Britain.

The Fiesta replaced the Escort as Britain's favourite car during 1989, but Ford said last night that every new Fiesta manufactured at Dagenham between January 1989 and May 1990 needed checking.

The ventilation flap is understood to seal the passenger cabin from gases emitted from the engine exhaust. Exhaust gases include carbon monoxide, nitrous oxides and unburnt hydrocarbons, unless the car is fitted with a catalytic converter.

Ford said: "There were a small number of complaints of traffic fumes entering the car, so we have decided that Fiestas should be brought in so that they can be checked over properly."

Sales of Fords dropped dramati-

cally last year from 608,000 in 1989 to more than 500,000 as the company bore the brunt of the slump in the new car trade. The best-selling model for the last eight years, the Escort, fell from favour since the car was revamped in September, leading to a fierce sales war in showrooms.

Ford would not say last night how much the recall would cost the company, but its decision to bring cars back is the latest among manufacturers operating in this country. Toyota is recalling 17,000 cars, after routine servicing revealed a flaw which could affect the handbrake performance of its Carina model. The Carinas were all made between December 1987 and February 1990.

Meanwhile, the recession is affecting another part of Ford's business, forcing layoffs at its Southampton plant, which makes Transit vans.

A third of the 3,000-strong workforce have been told to extend their Christmas holiday by three days until Monday. Another 1,000 production workers will then be laid off for the next three Fridays. Ford said that the slowdown in the economy was forcing a cut in output by 1,000 Transits over the next month.

Nissan lawsuit, page 31

Border protest, page 2

British Isles in the eye of the storm today

Continued from page 1

ening depression just south of Newfoundland.

A spokesman for the London Weather Centre said: "We are expecting winds gusting up to 90mph in exposed places. Blackpool Tower could be an exciting place and so could the Severn Bridge. Anything above 70mph can mean damage to buildings and

dangerous driving conditions. People planning to go out should ask themselves if their journeys are really necessary."

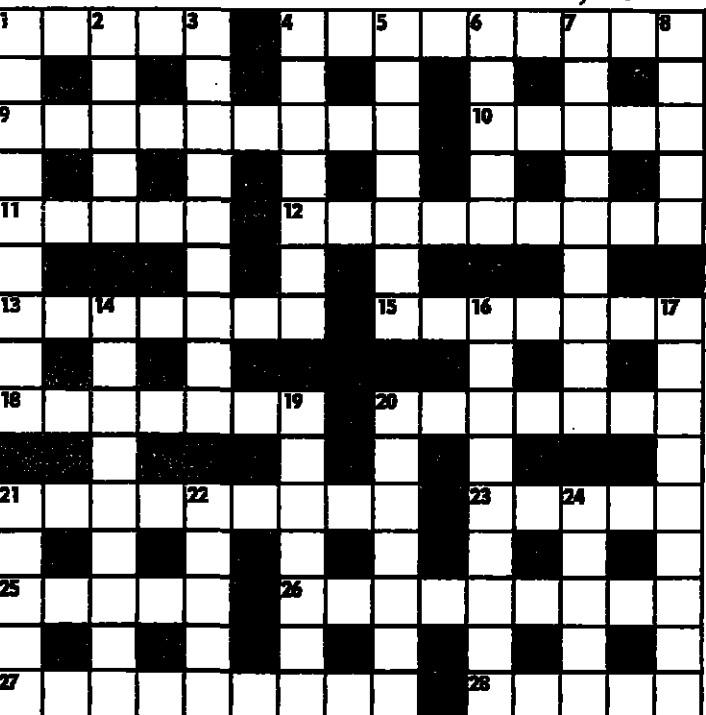
People were advised to garage cars if possible and close the doors, and to secure garden fences.

A flood warning was issued for Cumbria last night. A National Rivers Authority spokesman said: "High tides expected on Saturday

are likely to be among the highest we have recorded. These combined with the very strong winds could lead to very serious flooding and police in the county are now being given hourly information of water levels."

Fishermen and leisure sailors were warned to stay in port as storm-force winds were expected in the Irish Sea.

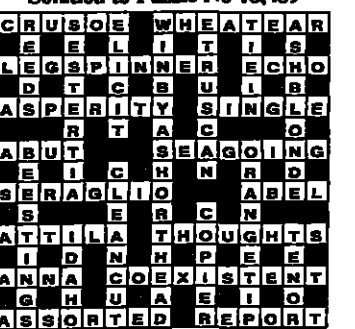
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,495



ACROSS

- How to make MD share with another (5).
- Shot played in traditional fashion (6,3).
- To get woollen cloth, pawn old boat for explorer (7).
- A place for the rest of the French in dark (5).
- Daughter finally caught by parents in Italian city (5).
- Representative pushes mother into partnership (9).
- Instrument's zero reading in a vehicle inside (7).
- A 9, probably, should remove you from hazard (7).
- Learner I teach in way that's professionally correct (7).
- Destroy second victim of mercury poisoning? (7).
- Trap set round a watering-hole (3,6).
- So noble almost returned in glory (5).
- Declare head of state, then crown (5).
- Spicy vegetable one would prefer to avoid (3,6).
- Like bid unchanged on reflection? (9).
- At least score by end of game is tight (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,489



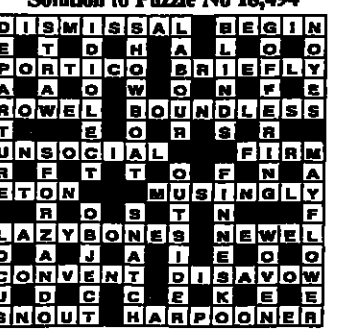
A prize of a superb Parker Duofold Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address

DOWN

- Man on call, an undistinguished sounding character? (9).
- Vessel foundering in River Nile (5).
- Gulf Arab in prison rising, self-centred type (9).
- Fort of poet on the drink (7).
- It may be why, we hear, one's not famous (7).
- Get out of bed one of several English flowers (5).
- For journalist writing Times leader, space in the paper is needed first (9).
- Strong man said to increase pressure (5).
- Club for female in mostly amateur organization (9).
- Brave infantry given jet cover (9).
- Paving to replace broken set? (9).
- For example, kid's ball (7).
- Doubtful American thus projected inside (7).
- Talks a lot of hot air, say (5).
- Joint withdrawal from bank legally made (5).
- Halved before being quartered? (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,494



The winners of last Saturday's competition are: A. Anderson, Desideria Gardens, Aberdeen; J. G. Lambie, Maryland Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent; M. Godmark, Shearwater, Walswick, Suffolk; A. L. Sneddon, Bellwood Court, Langside, Glasgow; C. Forbes, Westbourne Crescent, London.

Concise Crossword, page 13

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

MALAX
a. A curse or imprecation
b. To soften by kneading
c. The ball at water polo

SIKA
a. A scented rhododendron
b. Frisky Kashmiri carry
c. A small deer

ZUPOLO
a. A flute for training song birds
b. Sweet of egg yolks and marmalade
c. A clown on a horse

DOSSIL
a. A spigot
b. Drowsy and docile
c. The sill of a door

Answers on page 13

THE TIMES WEATHER

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Devon & Cornwall	703
Wiltshire, Dorset, Somerset	704
North Devon, Devon	705
North Devon, Devon	706
North Devon, Devon	707
North Devon, Devon	708
North Devon, Devon	709
North Devon, Devon	710
North Devon, Devon	711
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North Devon, Devon	727
North Devon, Devon	728
North Devon, Devon	729
North Devon, Devon	730

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0835 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	732
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	733
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	734
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	735
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	736
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	737
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	738
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	739
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	740
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	741
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M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	746
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	747
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	748
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	749
M1/M25 (with N & S Circles)	750

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

NOON TODAY

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Today measured in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

WEATHER

Everywhere will have gales or stormy winds with squally rain or showers. The strongest winds are expected in the morning over Northern Ireland, northern England, north Wales and southern Scotland. Between showers the brightest weather will be over southern and central England and south Wales. Outlook: becoming less windy, but gales returning with blustery rain turning wintry on northern hills.

AROUND BRITAIN

Midday: 1=thunder; 2=drizzle; 3=fog; 4=sun; 5=clear; 6=rain; 7=cloud; 8=rain; 9=rain; 10=rain; 11=rain; 12=rain; 13=rain; 14=rain; 15=rain; 16=rain; 17=rain; 18=rain; 19=rain; 20=rain; 21=rain; 22=rain; 23=rain; 24=rain; 25=rain; 26=rain; 27=rain; 28=rain; 29=rain; 30=rain; 31=rain; 32=rain; 33=rain; 34=rain; 35=rain; 36=rain; 37=rain; 38=rain; 39=rain; 40=rain; 41=rain; 42=rain; 43=rain; 44=rain; 45=rain; 46=rain; 47=rain; 48=rain; 49=rain; 50=rain; 51=rain; 52=rain; 53=rain; 54=rain; 55=rain; 56=rain; 57=rain; 58=rain; 59=rain; 60=rain; 61=rain; 62=rain; 63=rain; 64=rain; 65=rain; 66=rain; 67=rain; 68=rain; 69=rain; 70=rain; 71=rain; 72=rain; 73=rain; 74=rain; 75=rain; 76=rain; 77=rain; 78=rain; 79=rain; 80=rain; 81=rain; 82=rain; 83=rain; 84=rain; 85=rain; 86=rain; 87=rain; 88=rain; 89=rain; 90=rain; 91=rain; 92=rain; 93=rain; 94=rain; 95=rain; 96=rain; 97=rain; 98=rain; 99=rain; 100=rain; 101=rain; 102=rain; 103=rain; 104=rain; 105=rain; 106=rain; 107=rain; 108=rain; 109=rain; 110=rain; 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SPORT

SUMMARY Memory game



MORE than 30 years have passed since Burnley beat Manchester City to win the League championship. Hard times have followed at Turf Moor but that will be forgotten tomorrow when the two teams meet again in the third round of the FA Cup.

Peter Reid (above), the player-manager of City, will find that even if Burnley are in the fourth division, their ground still belongs in the first and 21,000 will pack it for a tie full of the romance of the Cup. Page 25

YACHTING

Safe passage

CANNON fire in Gibraltar tomorrow will start Europe '92, a round-the-world cruising rally that puts the emphasis on the interest and safety of its participants. David Miller reports. Page 28

RUGBY UNION

Final plans

WALES make their final review of playing talent before the national squad gathers for training to prepare for the five nations' championship match against England. Meanwhile the English back in the sun in Lanzarote. Page 26

SWIMMING

Golden youth



FU MINGXIA (above), of China, became the youngest world champion in swimming history when she won the gold medal for platform diving in Perth yesterday. Fu is aged 12, but in future nobody so young will be allowed to compete. Page 28

SKIING

Last resort

LACK of snow gives a poor image to resorts like Garmisch, in Germany, where the classic downhill, the Kandahar, will be held today. After three poor years, Garmisch installed snow-making machinery to make sure the race goes ahead but, as Brian James reports, conditions are still not ideal. Page 24

MOTOR RALLYING

Desert tracks



JACKY ICKX (above) was the first to enjoy success as the Paris-Dakar rally went deep into Libya. David Chappell rose with the dawn in Ghadamis, a concrete strip in the desert, as the caravan prepared for the next challenge. Page 24

RACING

Coin return

NORTON'S Coin, 100-1 winner of the Cheltenham Gold Cup last March, has his first run since in the Newton Chase at Haydock today. Cool Ground, winner of the Coral Welsh National two weeks ago, attempts to repeat last year's success in the Anthony Mildmay, Peter Cazelet Memorial Handicap Chase at Sandown. Page 27

England loosen the shackles slightly

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, SYDNEY

DAVID BOON almost made his usual Sydney century and Allan Border came close to his first. Yesterday, nevertheless, was far from being the day of subservience England must have feared when they lost the toss at the outset of the pivotal third Test match.

In what may turn out to be the best batting conditions of the game, Australia never quite escaped the attentions of England's grievously weakened attack. The run-rate was well below three per over and, crucially, neither Boon nor Border survived the final session, each falling when a century seemed his for the taking.

Given their grim circumstances, it was a heartening effort by England. They have only four regular bowlers, plus Gooch and Atherton as part-timers, and there was little to encourage any of them once the shine was off the ball.

The pitch, as ever in Sydney, is the key to their chances. An odd mosaic of grassy patches and rolled mud, it is presently slow and benign, but few doubt that it will take increasing turn and it will be England, batting last, who have most to lose from that.

Graham Gooch has spoken uncompromisingly with his players more than once since the deplorable World Series Cup performance on Tuesday. Pride and belief will have been prominent in his exhortations. But he knew all too well that what was needed yesterday was to bat first, establish a safe score and then set the two spin bowlers to work on a wearing surface. He should have realised that, on this ill-fated tour, it was too much to hope for.

Border could not suppress a broad grin when the coin fell in his favour and, if the dismissal of both opening batsmen inside 80 minutes caused a flutter in the rampantly confident Australians' dressing-room, their assurance was restored during a third-wicket stand of 147 which England seemed at a loss to break.

Boon has mixed memories of Sydney Tests against England. In the Ashes series of 1986-7, he was dropped for the game but, a year later, he scored 184 not out in the one-off Bicentenary Test and he came into yesterday's innings with the remarkable record of a century in each of his past three Tests on the ground. He so nearly made it four.

By contrast, this is the one Australian ground on which Border has never reached three figures and here, having looked for all the world as if he was about to correct the omission, he was out to the sweep shot against Eddie Hemmings for the second time this week.

Border has not made a century anywhere for 22 Tests and yet, such is his consistency, has managed to improve his average in that period. This was the fiftieth time he has been out between 50 and 99 in Test cricket, one more obscure record for a man who prefers to deal in hard practicalities.

A hot, cloudless day and the potential demise of the Poms brought in a bigger crowd than expected, 27,302, but many were still finding their seats when the first of the day's dramas was enacted.

Devon Malcolm, seniority thrust upon him by the absence of Angus Fraser, began his most purposeful new-ball spell of the series by having Marsh put down by Gooch at second slip before either batsman or fielder can have appreciated the no-ball signal which relieved them both.

Taylor may have been surprised to see England abandon the tactic of bowling round the wicket to him, but it was a ploy devised for Melbourne, where the priority was to confine the batsmen and avoid defeat. Here, with victory essential to keep the Ashes interest alive, the need was to take wickets.

Malcolm deserved any early spoils and, fortune for once being fair-minded, he got them. Marsh edged the perfect outswinger to first slip; Taylor, having spent an hour on four, was then proceeding in ominous style when he was tucked up by a quick, rising leg-stump ball which he could only glove to Russell.

Boon had rediscovered his touch on the final day of the Melbourne Test but, in or out of form, there are still certain areas in which England should never bowl to him. Top of the list is short outside off-stump and, for the next hour, that is precisely where he was fed, first by Small and then by Hemmings, whose first spell of the series was nothing short of dreadful.

The last time Hemmings

bowed here, three years back, his second-innings figures were sought for 107 as Australia, following-on, were jauntily guided to safety by Boon. Now almost 42, and looking his age in the field more than once yesterday, Hemmings must have feared something similar.

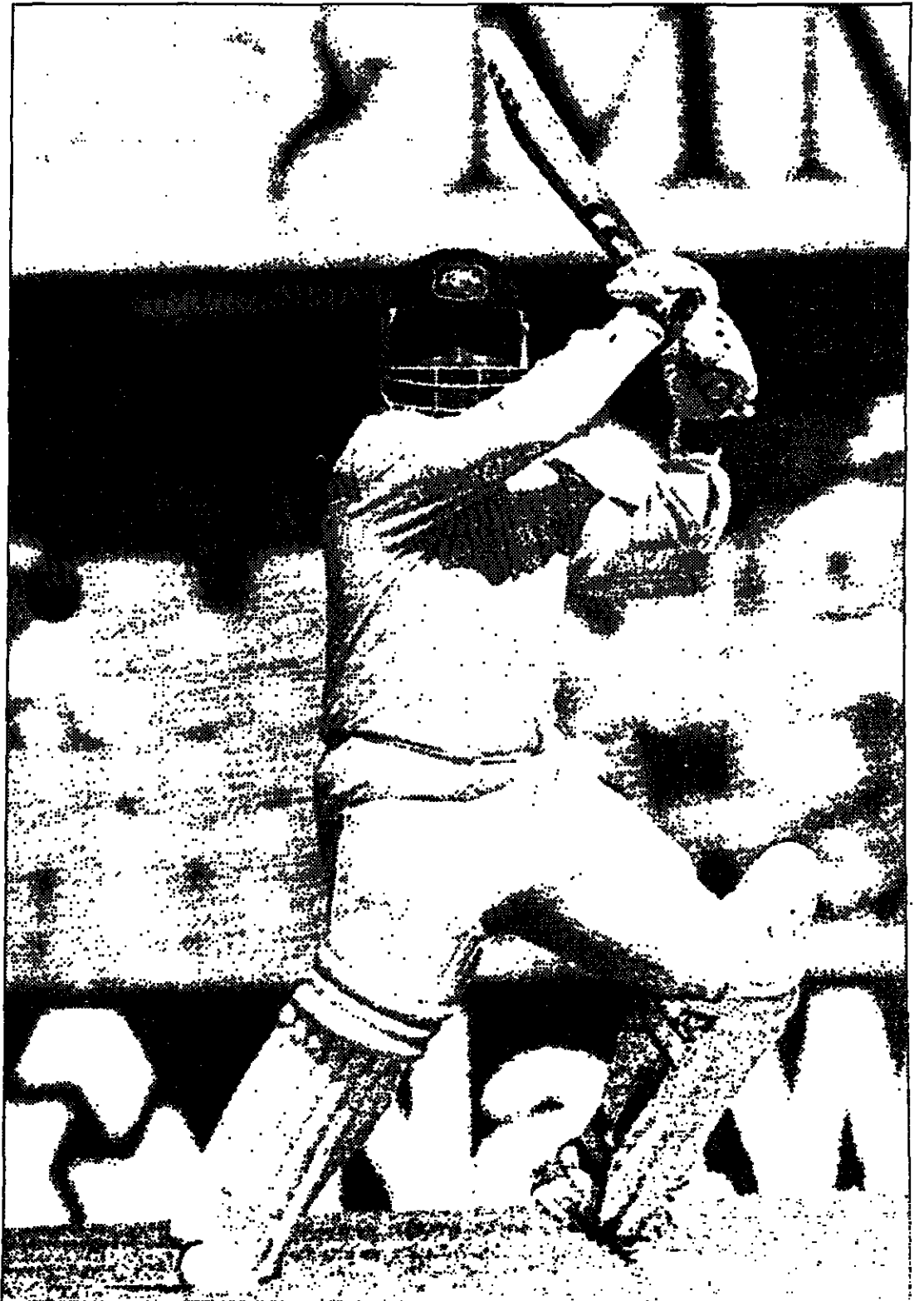
Tufnell kept order without endangering either man and, at 136 for two, Gooch adopted what he always regards as his last resort and brought himself on. It was the captain's first competitive bowl since November 9 in Adelaide but not only did he drop tidily on to a length, he also took a wicket in what was comfortably the worst of his nine overs.

Boon, beginning the over on 85, cut and off-drove the first two balls for four, played the next defensively and then swivelled on his toes to caress the fourth to the mid-wicket fence. One more boundary was all he required for a century and Gooch seemed to have served up a gift with a ball short and wide of off-stump. Boon launched his favourite square-cut, did not keep it down and Atherton, at backward point, threw up the catch. Exit the moustached Tasmanian, mouthing self-recrimination.

Border might have departed on 69 when Atherton, in the same position, could not cling on to a far tougher chance. But the Australian captain added only nine before, to his plain surprise, missing a sweep and seeing his leg stump knocked back.

Gooch took the new ball ten minutes before the close, quickly giving it to Hemmings in partnership with Malcolm, but Jones, curbing his impetuosity for almost two hours, and Waugh, who needs a score to knock the vultures off his shoulder, stylishly denied England any further cause for encouragement.

Dennis Amiss, the former England opening batsman, has been appointed chairman of Warwickshire's cricket sub-committee. Amiss takes over from Neil Houghton, who was in office for a two-year period which covered Warwickshire's triumph in the NatWest Trophy in 1989. The sub-committee has been reduced from 12 members to five.



A cut above: the in-form Boon plays one of his many fine shots square of the wicket yesterday

SCOREBOARD FROM SYDNEY

Australia won toss

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

	Runs	Wickets	Extras	Rate
G R Marsh c Larwood b Malcolm	13	2	55	41
M A Taylor c Russell b Malcolm	11	2	79	47
Fending ball off hip, caught on leg side				
D C Boon c Atherton b Gooch	87	17	201	174
Cutting knee-high to backward point				
* A R Border b Hemmings	78	10	250	184
Sweeping, bowled round legs				
D M Jones not out	27	3	104	74
S R Waugh not out	22	3	33	33
Extras (b 4, nb 7)	11			
Total (4 wks, 364 mins, 91 overs)	280			

G R J Matthews, H A Healy, C G Rackemann, T M Alderman and B A Reid to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21 (Taylor 4), 2-38 (Boon 10), 3-185 (Border 55), 4-228 (Jones 16).
BOWLING: Malcolm 22-7-58-2 (nb 7) (10-5-18-2), (1-1-11-0), (5-1-21-0), (2-0-4-0); Small 18-4-54-0 (nb 1) (3-2-22-0), (2-1-10-0), (4-1-12-0); Hemmings 18-6-45-1 (13-3-40-0), (2-0-4-0), (3-1-6-1), (1-1-1-0); Tufnell 18-6-45-0 (1-1-4-0), (11-3-36-0), (5-2-9-0); Gooch 9-2-32-1 (one spell); Atherton 4-0-21-0 (one spell).

ENGLAND: G A Gooch, M A Atherton, W Larwood, R A Smith, D I Gower, A J Stewart, R C Russell, E E Hemmings, A R C Fraser, D E Malcolm, P C R Tufnell.

Umpires: A R Crafter, P J McConnell.

FIRST TEST: Australia won by 10 wks.

SECOND TEST: Australia won by 8 wks.

TESTS TO COME: Fourth Test: Adelaide, January 24-28. Fifth Test: Perth, February 1-5.

By IVO TENNANT

LORD Griffiths, the president of MCC, has told members that he is prepared to "stand up and be counted on controversial issues" within the game. He is especially critical of various aspects of Test match cricket.

"At international level the game is, in my view, suffering from a breakdown in discipline, undermining the authority of the umpire, dangerous short-pitched fast bowling and, at times, ludicrously slow over-rates," he said.

"I was very encouraged to see solid progress being made towards a solution of the problems of international cricket, which will be put forward for the consideration of the International Cricket Council in Australia."

Lord Griffiths, who is represent-

ing MCC in Australia, said he saw his year in office as one of retrenchment.

"We have spent a lot of money recently and our finances must be consolidated. New committee and staffing structures have been introduced and they must be given time to settle down."

MCC has obtained 300 car-parking spaces at two local schools within ten minutes' walk of Lord's for use on important match days. These have become necessary owing to Lord Justice Taylor's recommendations on safety. Parking spaces for members within the ground will be reduced this summer.

Only full members of MCC aged over 65, who live more than 100 miles from Hyde Park Corner or who are disabled or suffer from limited mobility, may park within

Lord's on important match days.

Li-Col John Stephenson, MCC's secretary, said: "Inevitably it will take some time before the total effects of the Taylor Report are known."

"In the meantime, I should like to reassure all members that their committee believes that, although the privileges of members are fully protected, the provision of any legal requirements must be met."

● SYDNEY: Graeme Hick hit a sparkling 69, his highest score for Queensland, as they recovered

from the loss of an early wicket to reach 300 for five on the first day of their Sheffield Shield match against New South Wales yesterday (Reuters reports).

Hick, who qualifies to play for England in April, completed his third half-century of the season before falling to the occasional spinner, Mark O'Neill.

He mixed explosive power with determined defence, hitting seven fours and two sixes in a 126-run second-wicket stand with Peter Cantrell, who made 67.

Progress encourages MCC president

Kicking sand in the world's face

SIMON BARNES
ON SATURDAY

THIS column believes in facing facts. Our Boys have certainly succeeded in lulling the Australian cricketers into a false sense of security, haven't they? Certain unkind people have suggested that the cricket results demonstrate that the index of national machismo has fallen to an all-time low. To such people, this column asks: What about sand yachting? What about cycle speedway? What about microlighting? In these areas, there are Brits who lead the world.

I learn, from an enthralled perusal of the Sports Council's mag, *Sport and Leisure*, that Brits hold 87 world titles in 31 sports. Here are some of them:

Athletics: Eleanor Adamson, world record-holder, 200km, 500km and 500-mile track events; Don Ritchie, world record-holder, 40 miles, 50 miles, 100 miles, 100km, 150km track events; Bowling: England women's team (outdoor); Cycle speedway: Ray Oliver, world individual champion; Hang gliding: Judy Leden and Rob Whittall, women's and men's individual world champions.

Karate: Wayne Otto, open sambon Kumite world champion; Microlighting: Richard Meredith-Hardy, world champion; Motor sport: Tim Parrott, world karting champion; Mountaineering: Simon Nadin, world competition climbing champion; Orienteering: Jenny Thompson, world veteran champion; Rackets: James Male, world singles champion.

Riding: Joy Loyla, Lilla Wall, Liz Finney and Judith Heely, world long-distance riding

champions. Rugby five: Wayne Estone, world champion. Sand yachting: Viv Ellis, world class III women's champion.

This space is not one that goes in for jingoism overmuch, but I am always ready to give a cheer for the sand yachtsmen and women of luxury.

Quarterbacks

I am not sure if I am writing about the best job in sport, or the worst. I have been learning about the fascinating subject of the non-throwing quarterback. A quarterback is the most important single player in any game of American football. He is the superstar's superstar.

Behind every great quarterback there is an understudy waiting for him to get smashed into constituent atoms. Behind every understudy there is a third-string quarterback with nothing to do. It is a good idea to have cover for your top man: but a stable of quarterbacks can be an expensive luxury.

This week I would like to salute Kelly Stouffer, who last year earned \$700,000—and did not throw a single pass all season. Stouffer effortlessly topped the non-throwing quarterbacks league table but he was not alone. Far from it: behind him stand Matt Cavanaugh (\$510,000), Chuck Long (who, despite this wonderful

name for a quarterback, picked up a mere \$420,000). Steve Feuerlein (\$400,000), Geoff Kemp (\$360,000), Neil O'Donnell (\$355,500), Gary Conklin (\$215,000) and Scott Mitchell (\$208,000). These last three totals include a signing fee—presumably the only exercise these golden arms got all year.

● Who is the most hated man in the world? Ask any Italian: 25 per cent of them say Saddam Hussein. And 34 per cent say Diego Maradona. "Italians agree," LA REPUBLICA newspaper said. "Maradona is a troublemaker, a hypocrite and a sower of discord." No doubt he is also the man most likely to cause the third world war as well.

The silent one

In Italy, you do not treat your feuds in a dilettante fashion. Especially not in football. Gianluca Vialli, the Sampdoria forward, has been refusing to speak to the Italian sporting press since his desperate failure in the World Cup last summer. This is called grandly a *silenzio stampa*.

Vialli had agreed to take part in a round table discussion at Emilian College in Genoa, an institution run by a religious order known as the Somaschi Fathers. The Fathers were making rather a thing of it all. Naturally, they invited press and television along. Vialli then arrived and threw a wobbler, explaining the important moral stance of his *silenzio stampa*.

The embarrassed Fathers then explained this to the press, which

did not take this calmly. Criticism of Gianluca gets more vituperative by the day. Oh, and the subject for discussion with the Fathers? "Football: not just entertainment. The person behind the sporting image."

Take-away

At Eddery was Britain's champion jockey over the Flat last season. He won an amazing 209 races; the total prize-money he brought in for his owners was £1,685,386. Let us compare this to the champion American jockey, Gary Stevens, who in 1990 earned his owners a total of \$13.1 million.

Not bad, eh? But nothing compared to Yutaka Take, of Japan. He won his owner 2.36 billion yen, or \$17.45 million, by winning 116 races. Take is 21 and has won 431 races in four years of riding competitively. Never mind. I bet our bookies are richer than theirs.

Two true Blues

Question: what do Lord Byron and Kris Kristofferson have in common? Answer: they are former members of Oxford University Boxing Club. This fascinating fact comes from Debbie Johnson's column in a publication, described as Oxford University's only sports paper, called *Trueblue*. Their question-mark, not mine. Byron and Kristofferson are men very easily confused: which was it that gave us the immortal line: "Feeling/Near as faded/As my jeans"?

How long can you put off making a will?

(7 out of 10 people leave it too late)

Making a will is one of life's most important decisions. Yet it's one decision most people never make.

Too many wrongly assume all they own automatically goes to their next of kin. Only by making a proper legal will can you be sure all your wishes are carried out in full.

In short, making a will is essential. But it needn't be complicated or time-consuming.

With this in mind, Help the Aged has produced a booklet: 'Your Guide to Making a Will'. It tells you in plain English:

* Why you need to make a will * How to go about it * How to save tax * How to make a bequest to your favourite charity

If you'd like a free copy of our booklet, or if you'd like to know more about Help the Aged's work at home and overseas, simply complete the coupon and return it to us today. Or, if you'd prefer, call us on 071-253 0253 ext. 223.

Help the Aged, St. James's Walk, London EC1R 0BE.

To: Help the Aged, Room No. 914409, FREEPOST, PO Box 164, Yateley, Camberley, Surrey GU17 7BR. Please send me the following: (Please tick boxes)

☐ A free copy of 'Your Guide to Making a Will'.

☐ Information about Help the Aged's work.

Name (Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr)

Address

Postcode



Help the Aged

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Britain's chance to further Olympic cause

MY SPORTING highlight of last year has to be watching my wife, Nicky, win the Badminton Horse Trials on her horse, Middle Road. But how, otherwise, have the Nineties started, as compared with the hopes I expressed with Daley Thompson in *The Times* one year ago?

One of our hopes was that "in the next ten years the plans will be laid for staging another Olympic Games in Great Britain". There was sadness in September when Manchester's campaign (for 1996) failed. But Atlanta's victory encouraged me to throw a hat for London into the ring for the year 2000, and another race is on.

Our main hope was for a new emphasis on the old sporting values of fair play and entertainment. But we also said there would be, inevitably, surprises. And what a pleasant surprise that an England football team should reach the semi-finals of the World Cup and win the fair play award.

Football has not always given the right lead to the rest of British sport, but the England side did just that and we were all proud of them. In the last weeks of the old year, Gary Lineker also won an individual fair play award from Fifa, football's inter-



COMMENT

SEBASTIAN COE

national governing body. This was very well deserved; Gary shows every week a captain of England's example to young people.

Two other great British sportsmen also set good examples in 1990. Nick Faldo took the world of golf by storm, and did it in the sporting way. David Gower faced adversity in the best sporting manner, and I hope he continues to fight the good fight in the remaining Test matches in Australia.

They may not always be good examples, but sporting comebacks are always good stories. Last year the great Lester Piggott chose to excite racers again. Not much appeared to have changed, including the dry humour. Asked by journalists about variations to his technique, he replied: "No, just the same. I put one leg on one side of the horse and the other leg on the other side."

What do I expect and look for

in the New Year?

Of course, there will be more surprises. The enduring appeal of sport lies in its unpredictability. The big events of 1991 include world championships in swimming, athletics and rugby union; cricket Tests against Australia and the West Indies; and the World Student Games in Sheffield. And for many, many competitors there will be the run up to the Barcelona Olympic Games in 1992. They will be studying form — their own, and everyone else's.

I never managed to compete in an athletics world championship. I was injured in both 1983 and 1987, the first two competitions. They are now an established event in the calendar and we can expect great deeds in Tokyo. We shall all hope that performances are drug-free, this means few, if any, world records.

For Britain, I shall watch for Daley Thompson, of course (and he is now training well) and for

all our European championship heroes, although many will find the competition much tougher. My personal hope must be that we maintain our great middle-distance tradition, through success from Elliott, Cram or McKean.

The rugby World Cup is also new, on its second time around. In the European spirit, Britain is joint host with the French. There must be English and Scottish optimism, but we have to get through the five nations' championship first — and the English have to face again their nemesis in Cardiff. The spirit of Richard Sharp — one of my old colleagues at the Sports Council, and England's fly-half back in 1963 — will be with them. And the hearts of Englishmen will be in their mouths.

The burden on the World Cup organisers is a heavy one. It is important for this country that the event is a success. It is important for sport that standards of conduct and play are high. Twenty-six matches will be shown live in a few weeks next autumn. Many new eyes will be on the game of rugby and their enthusiasm should not be "given the early bath".

Some of the same thoughts

apply to Sheffield in July and the staging of the World Student Games. This has not been a good story so far. Sheffield won the event, without competition; it is clear the city did not know what it was taking on. For some time now, the only news out of the Sheffield headquarters has been about money and all of it was bad.

Once again, we understand the organisers are seeking help. Staging such a world event in this country should be good news. At the very least, we have to prevent bad news; and on the international scene, our last effort, the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh (1986), is not a good memory.

That called into question our ability to handle the big international sporting events. I know the decisions on Sheffield and the games will remain hard, but we should avoid another stigma. Efforts should be made to ensure the event is staged as planned and done well.

There are certain people I shall look out for in particular in 1991. I have already mentioned Daley Thompson and Gary Lineker. They both represent for me, in their different ways, the best of our great sporting tradition. I am proud that they are

working with me in the London Olympic 2000 campaign to win the Games for this country.

I shall watch Nick Faldo in his quest for the golf Grand Slam. Is it achievable, in the modern age? If it is, Faldo can do it. But he will need health and luck, as you do in any sporting endeavour.

A sportsman I admire is Jonathan Davies. He has achieved, quietly and without fuss, the transition from success in rugby union to success in rugby league. Few have managed it well before him; and those few (like David Watkins) have done so via the same route — talent and application. I wish him honours in 1991. His new sport also boasts one of the great athletes of modern times in Elery Hanley.

Among the women, I shall worry a few (three-day eventing) weekends with my wife — and hope the horses do her proud. But I shall also root for Tracey Edwards, in her next adventure, for Yvonne Murray, and for all those blazing a trail in football, rugby and cricket.

We will all continue to worry about British tennis. One safe prediction is that in a year's time I am unlikely to be reflecting with other than frustration on another tennis 12-month.

But in sport, of all things, hope springs eternal. The main hope must still be that 1991 brings good stories of sportsmanship and entertainment. Those are the birthrights of sport — they are the standards by which we are all judged, in the end.

More humour will also be welcome. Like, for example the advice given to me in 1984 (before my "comeback" at the Los Angeles Olympic Games) by the American coach and later team manager, Joe Newton. "Don't worry," he reassured me. "Old age and treachery will always beat youth and skill." This is not advice I offer generally.

Finally, there is politics; and I wish the minister for sport well in drawing conclusions to the long-running review of the structure of British sport. Anyone involved in administration knows that the present structure is wrong and damaging for the development of sport at all levels. But few can agree on what should be changed, and how. I hope the minister finds some right answers and helps to secure the changes so long needed.

That will make the story for 1991 — along with success in Sheffield, if that can be achieved.

SKIING

The snow must go on to repair host resort's TV image

FROM BRIAN JAMES IN GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN

ALTHOUGH the skies over Garmisch, where a new year of ski racing begins today, were of a deep and unsullied blue, it was possible for the imagination to fill them with frustrated, down-in-the-beak vultures. That was after hearing Gian Franco Kasper, the secretary-general of the international ski federation, tell what it means to a town to gain — or lose — a world cup race.

"Each season we have perhaps 30 races to arrange. And each year we have a waiting list of between 500 and 600 resorts begging for an event. When a race has to be cancelled, they are like vultures, they pounce. Within two hours I will get 20 calls from towns claiming they can find up to £500,000, find hotels for all teams and officials, lay their hands on miles of safety netting, call on 600 volunteer piste workers and be ready to race in 24 hours. That is what they will do to get a race. Imagine what it means to lose one."

His words could draw blood in Garmisch. For the past three snow-starved winters they have had to cancel their classic downhill, the Kandahar, at short notice. This year they have beaten off the vultures with cannon. A water cannon that is, a snowmaking

installation, costing £1.9 million, which should enable the German town, with a population of 27,000, to host 25,000 visitors at the downhill on Saturday and the super-giant slalom on Sunday.

Pieter Manniger, the tourist director for the Garmisch valley, said: "We were desperate. Not because of the money lost from visitors, but what three cancelled races did to our image." Resort image, conveyed by panning television cameras for the pre-race chatter, is the motivator.

Not that Garmisch will be thrilled with the background television shots because the snow is sparse, and even with all that expensive artificial layering, the conditions are so marginal that practice on Thursday was cancelled, and yesterday's two timed runs to decide race starts were cut to one.

Not just a long absence from its twists made the Kandahar a tough puzzle in that single test. The track is a little longer and shade steeper, and a new man-made hump just above the finish was startling enough to make spectators hurriedly re-adjust their positions to where the blood might flow freely after a few early runners had flown 50 metres in midair before landing. It was the older and

infamous jump, the "steil-bahnstadi" which caused the only helicopter evacuation, of Gaspertoni from San Marino, with a smashed shoulder.

Every racer talked of the bumpy course, which tested their technique and gave them no rest. When the decimals were counted the usual stockpot of seasoned Swiss, Austrians and Germans, spiced with the inevitable flavouring of Scandinavians, were there.

But the adventurous Italian, Ghedina, who flogged down in 1min 54.49sec, was the surprise leader. The news reached his training-colleague, Peter Runggaldier, better known as a young but competent super-giant slalom skier, who cut the time by 0.75sec. Runggaldier, an Italian, explained: "Ghedina and I have been equal in training. I knew if the piste was good for Kristian it was very technical — and so good for me."

For Britain, Martin Bell inched up a fraction from a bad starting position, while his brother, Graham, slipped back, cursing too much uncontrolled aggression, and Boris Duncan did not finish. LEAGUE PRIZE: TIMES. Men's downhill: 1. P. Runggaldier (It), 1min 53.79sec; 2. K. Ghedina (It), 1:54.49; 3. F. Heizer (Ger), 1:54.88; 4. L. Stock (Austria), 1:54.73; 5. A. Scazzola (Nor), 1:54.74; 6. P. Mahrer (Switz), 1:54.81; 7. M. Wiesner (Ger), 1:54.81; 8. H. Hockfeller (Austria), 1:55.02; 9. L. Arnesen (Nor), 1:55.20; 10. T. Moe (US), 1:55.22.

SQUASH RACKETS

Revenge for Jackman

CASSANDRA Jackman, of Norfolk, re-established her domination of domestic junior squash at Leicester yesterday, recovering from a two-game deficit to defeat Jane Martin, of Northumbria, in the final of the SRA British under-19 open championship (Colin McQuillan, of Kent, was the runner-up).

Martin, who has improved immeasurably this season and defeated Jackman for the closed national title two months ago, started in such aggressive form that another victory seemed

almost certain. She took the first two games for a single point in 15 minutes against the defending champion and top seed. But Jackman settled her nerves to win.

In the lower age-group open finals, Jenny Tranfield, of Yorkshire, won the under-16 title and Stephanie Brind, of Kent, the under-14 title. RESULTS: Finals Under-19 C. Jackman (Norfolk) to J. Martin (Northumbria), 0-2, 1-2, 3-1, 2-4, 4-1; Under-16 J. Tranfield (Yorkshire) to D. Leveson (Sussex), 2-0, 2-1, 3-0; Under-14 S. Brind (Kent) to T. Sherratt (Staffordshire), 3-0, 3-1, 3-4.

Citroens away to a flyer on the road to Dakar



Shifting through the sand: Vatanen in the Libyan desert yesterday on his way to winning the second stage

The desert caravan in overdrive

FROM DAVID CHAPPELL IN IDRI, LIBYA

DAWN breaks over the airfield at Ghadamis, a simple concrete strip in the Libyan desert. A group of a dozen loads stands outside the lone wooden hut which passes for the airport offices, quietly observing the early-morning scene.

For once, it is a hive of activity, the site of the first overnight bivouac on the 1991 Paris to Dakar rally. The travelling caravan is breaking camp, the opening desert stage only hours away.

Motorcyclists splutter out towards the starting line 15 kilometres down the road to Idri, their breath showing in the chill air. On the runway, a fleet of air transport is ready for the off. As the queues form for breakfast at the field kitchen, the fine-tuning and last-minute preparations for the cars and drivers are almost complete.

Every available space on car chassis, motorcycle, truck, rally jacket and leathers is taken by the plethora of sponsors attracted by this annual run through what was French colonial Africa. But in the space of four hours this gaudy circus will disappear with the early-morning mist, leaving the locals to gaze out over the empty desert on one.

The Hercules, which heads a

considerable troop and machinery transport air force employed by a French television station, trundles slowly down the runway to take off. On the ground, competitors, officials, support crew and journalists mill around.

The wagon train comprises professionals and amateurs alike, all with the common aim of reaching Senegal.

In the Lada camp, Patrick Tambay is still having to explain his embarrassing roll in the prologue in France: "The plate on which the jack stands came loose and as I leaned down to extract it from beneath my feet, the car went up the bank and rolled."

Tambay was soon having to face the music again, losing a wheel and three hours on the 400-mile test to Idri.

A few yards away from the Ladas, the Sonata quartet of Mitsubishi makes a neat and tidy sight, suggesting that Pierre Lartigue and Kenneth Eriksson will go well now the desert has been reached.

But it is the vivid yellow wagon train within the Dakar wagon train which commands attention. Six Citroen service trucks are arranged in pairs to form three sides of a square, the team's tents completing a formidable unit.

The four ZXs are the pick of the parade ring, the best turned

out, Jacky Ickx leads Bjorn Waldegard away, leaving the stage clear for Ari Vatanen's customary late entrance and the faithful Alain Ambrosio to bring up the rear and act as emergency service.

When Vatanen finally appears, he looks dishevelled. No one has remembered to wake him. The world's leading rally driver has 35 minutes to dress, reach the start line and lead the field away. Ever courteous, Vatanen greets his many well-wishers: "Ça va, Ari?" "Bonnie route, Ari?"

But with his studious co-driver, Bruno Berglund, agitating, Vatanen exits the compound swiftly, the Finn clearly flying early today. "The road to the start line was straight so I could do 200kph," he would say later. He made his appointment with the flag by three minutes.

In his dusty wake, the support crew join the lengthy breakfast queue, planes and helicopters compete for take-off times, others pack up and make tracks south to here. For this year, Ghadamis has had its brief visit from *Les Dakar*.

The run to Idri, the overnight stop on the two-day marathon to Ghat, takes the competitors over what appears from the air to be a giant black leaf but is a vast tract of flat, rocky desert veined by sand-filled crevices.

At the end, Citroen are in the driving seat, but it is Ickx, not Vatanen, who takes the honours with Lartigue's Mitsubishi separating the Citroens.

"No problems, good navigation," Lartigue says, dismissively. He seems more interested in the camerabert these which has accompanied him over the rocks and sand for the last six hours. Eriksson, his team colleague, who is fourth on his first day in the desert, is happy too. But the loss of front-wheel drive on Thursday cost him dearly in the dunes yesterday. A broken drive-shaft set him back two hours and six places.

The rest of the field trails in with tales of navigational errors to face a *parc fermé* before the next stage. No servicing allowed — which means the drivers and motorcyclists have only themselves for company this night. However, they do have a former French football manager in their midst as Michel Hidalgo has directed his man to Idri in 36th place. Mid-table respectability. Others, including the British motorcyclist, Tony Fowkes, are not so lucky, the last arrival at 5am.

Yesterday morning they were gone again, leaving the sand to cover their tracks for the next year as Vatanen and Ickx led the race to rejoin the Dakar caravan here.

HOCKEY

Five from Jennings end Dutch interest

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN IN LIMBURG, GERMANY

IAN Jennings scored five goals, four in a row, for St Albans who made the kind of start they wanted in the second European Indoor Club Championship here yesterday with a 10-7 victory over the Dutch champions, Hattensee.

It was simply a matter of St Albans building on their early advantage to keep the Dutch out of striking distance, although they gave the English champions a few moments of anxiety towards the end of the first half.

Two smart saves by Hurst averted the danger as the Dutch came in strongly with two goals well up in front. When the interval arrived, St Albans were 5-2 ahead and when they led 10-6 with five minutes to go the Dutch were left with a mountain to climb.

Wisher opened St Albans' account by scoring in the third minute on the follow up after the Dutch goalkeeper, Exel, had scored from Jennings at a short corner. Within a couple of minutes Halliday broke free on the right and sent a pass to Jennings who scored into an empty goal.

Dutch hopes were revived when Jan Middendorp, one of three brothers in the side, converted a short corner. After Jennings had scored from a penalty stroke, Peter Middendorp, cut the lead to 3-2 and this was as close as the Dutch ever came to levelling the score.

Jennings lit the fire again for St Albans who went on to establish a 9-4 lead giving the Dutch little chance of recovering. When the game ended, Halliday (2), Anderson, and Rowley had all added to the score. The Dutch retaliated with goals by Uloco Middendorp (2), Jan Middendorp, and Peter Cooke (2).

Rathfriland, the Scottish champions, never recovered from the shock of conceding goals in the first two minutes eventually to lose 6-2 to Pomorzanan, of Poland.

After Jaroszewski and Lukaszewski had scored for the Poles, Webster restored the Scots' fortunes with a well-taken goal from a corner. But their plight worsened when Paterson twice narrowly missed the mark. A goal by Smigilewski put the Poles 3-1 ahead and two more from Jaroszewski sent Pomorzanan into a 5-1 lead.

Strachan pulled one back for Rathfriland, but Lankauf scoring almost on his own assured the Poles of victory.

Cup football brings spring to the BBC's sporting life

By KEN LAWRENCE

COLD and wet and windy it may have been this first week of a new year but walking around BBC's headquarters at Shepherd's Bush yesterday you could have been excused for thinking it was spring. There was a buzz about the place and a jauntiness of step as the sports staff went about their business.

The explanation was a simple one. Football is back on BBC screens. *Match of the Day* with recorded highlights tonight; a live, blockbuster of an FA Cup tie tomorrow featuring Crystal Palace, last year's beaten finalists, against Nottingham Forest; and highlights of Manchester United's first defence of the trophy against QPR on Monday night and any replays on Wednesday. However highly the BBC rates Cup football, it has had withdrawal symptoms since the start of the season, because ITV holds the League contract.

Match of the Day tonight (10.15) is, John Motson says:

SPORT ON TELEVISION

THE WEEK IN VIEW

"The moment we have all been waiting for," Barry Davies adds: "Everyone I speak with wants our Saturday night programme back. There has been virtually nothing since the World Cup."

The love affair between the BBC and the FA Cup goes back a long way. The BBC presented its first final in 1938, has shown Cup football since the late Fifties and *Match of the Day* started more than a quarter of a century ago. Even without League games, the past two seasons have been good to the BBC. In 1988-9 its Cup programmes — which began with the first round in September — attracted 86.7 million viewers, the Everton-Liverpool final drawing 10.2 million of them. Last season

the total audience was 116.2 million, thanks to the back-to-back semi-finals on the same day, the semi-final replay between Oldham and Manchester United (10.3 million) and the Crystal Palace-Manchester United replay (a massive 13.9 million).

Brian Barwick, the editor of football, said: "It culminated in those two live semi-finals, without doubt the most exciting days of football in TV history." But did the BBC not miss League action? "Yes," Barwick said. "Yes," Desmond Lynam said. "We miss League action. We need it pre-Christmas, before the big names enter the Cup fray, and we need it because we have no proper football focus if we cannot look back at League action."

Barwick and Lynam argue that ITV "has done the game no favours". Lynam believes that League football on the box is now elitist. With the BBC's regular programmes of recorded highlights "second division players became household names". Now, he says, "They are anonymous outside their own fans. Across the board, the game is not best served by one live match. Tell me, is even the

first division well served with just a seven-minute pull-together of the good players?"

They both worry that with satellite channels grabbing top sport (the Sports Channel via the restricted Marco Polo link has Manchester United's tie live on Monday) the BBC may be losing out.

Lynam says: "The BBC's position is being slightly eroded. Sooner or later the great British public may wake up and see just what they have lost. They do have this underlying expectation that if it is big and it is sport then it should be on BBC."

Barwick says: "The next

time the football League contract comes up, the BBC will be in there pitching; it will be a bugle call for a regular return to networked League football. Trevor Phillips, the League's commercial man, has already stipulated that in future there will be no single purchaser. That is fine by us, we do not want it all."

But all that is for the future. Tonight they will be happy enough to be back with Lynam introducing *Match of the Day*.

It is worth noting that there are several long-runners with daily coverage over the next few days. The Mercantile

Credit snooker is on each afternoon and again at varying late-night times on ITV. The Paris-Dakar Rally is to be found on the satellite channels, Screensport and Eurosport, and Eurosport gives good exposure to the world swimming championships in Perth. BBC has the world darts championships.

If the Ashes are not to be lost next week, England must play better cricket at Sydney than so far this tour. Sky One has its cameras rolling through the night as usual until Tuesday from midnight until 7am, with half an hour of highlights following immediately. The BBC seems to have no more commitment to the series than the players — the highlights are dotted all over the place at wildly varying times.

But tomorrow, however, it gives BBC 8.05pm) the first major TV interview to be seen in Britain with Sir Donald Bradman. The Don now 82, talks of his career and there is a feast of film clips.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

TODAY: *Match of the Day* with Desmond Lynam introducing three FA Cup matches (BBC1, 10.15pm). Screensport (10.00pm) has the Tour of Britain. Grandstand (BBC1, 12.15pm) features the men's downhill from Garmisch — which can also be found on Eurosport — as hockey, racing from Haydock and the first match highlights from Sydney. TOMORROW: Brian Clough sets out again on the rocky road to Wembley and the FA Cup which he has never won. It could not be tougher start for his career (BBC2, 8.05pm). MONDAY: Manchester United and QPR will know their fourth round opponents before they play their third-round FA Cup tie tonight (Screensport live at 7.30, BBC1, 10.40pm), for the draw is on Sunday. TUESDAY: The third Test is due to end in Sydney this morning at 7.00. Sky One will be showing the whole of the last day throughout the night, and Richie

Benaud brings good news or bad for England fans with the highlights at 7.10pm (BBC2).

WEDNESDAY: FA Cup replay action on Sportsnight (BBC1, 10.00pm). On TV (10.40pm) Jimmy White should be at the table in the Mercantile Credit snooker. THURSDAY: Yet another crucial England cricket match — the one-day international at Melbourne — starts on Sky One at 3.20pm and closes at around 11.00pm. The BBC, presumably expecting England neither to win nor to score more than 220 runs, manages to squeeze its highlights on Two at 8.05pm. If it is very lucky, Stephen Hendry and Steve Davis will have reached tonight's semi-final of the snooker at Bournemouth (11.10pm). The first semi is at 2.20pm. Sport on Friday (BBC2, 2.15pm) has an FA Cup roundup, the world swimming championships and Ascot racing.

Sabin
favours

Survivor enjoying fruits of hard-won success

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

By MICHAEL SEELY
RACING CORRESPONDENT

REG Akhurst is quietly confident that Cool Ground can add this afternoon's Anthony Midway, Peter Cazalet Memorial Handicap Chase to the laurels he has already won in the Coral Welsh National at Cheltenham.

In the process, the always realistic trainer is also hopeful that the still-improving nine-year-old can become a live outsider for the Cheltenham Gold Cup in what appears to be an open year.

"Even though he's got Bonanza Boy to beat, he ought to win," says the trainer. "His weight's the same as before Cheltenham, his blood is right and so is the going. Everything seems right again, so all we need is the luck."

Recalling the day when Luke Harvey confidently sent Cool Ground past the favourite, Carrick Hill Lad, at the third fence from home, Akhurst said: "The Welsh National had been the target all season. He had been 50lb overweight when third at Haydock. Our resident vet, Brian Eagles, came to me two days beforehand and told me that the weight and blood were spot on. That's all we needed."

Despite his modest and self-effacing exterior, the former jump jockey has become a trusty ally of the punter with a steady

stream of well-backed winners. But there is no magic formula for his success or the rate of improvement shown by his horses, something which, over a period of years, has been a hallmark of the stable.

"In the jumping game, horses improve automatically from three to four, four to five, and again from five to six. My job is to keep them happy, give them plenty of work and use common sense. Ryan Price put it well when he said 'never mind about a 7lb penalty - a horse gets so much confidence from winning that it won't make much difference to him'."

"Success breeds success. Horses just love to gallop. So they seem to give each other confidence, the good ones drawing the more moderate ones along with them. It is the same as with a team of human beings, with the good people inspiring the others."

Last June, Akhurst left his Epsom headquarters to take up the appointment at Whitcombe Manor stables in Dorset. Built only 2½ years ago, by Peter Bolton, a multi-millionaire commercial property developer, the five-year stable block represents the last word in up-to-date construction and ideas.

Despite its newness, the honey-coloured local stone gives a weather-beaten look to the

stable complex, nestling in a shallow fold in the Dorset hills adjacent to the hamlet of Whitcombe with its thatched cottages.

A vast indoor school, a swimming pool, a solarium and an Eagles up-to-date laboratory are four striking features, and the gallops have been much improved. "One of the reasons for Cool Ground's improvement has been the better gallops," said Akhurst. "Apart from the 2½ miles of grass, we have got three all-weather gallops, including a straight six furlongs."

Although a momentarily-discounted Akhurst gave up training for 11 months at the end of 1981, a career of over 27 years has seen him equally proficient on the Flat. Gold Road's victory in the 1970 Prix du Moulin and that of Dolewood in the 1973 Coventry Stakes being among his notable Flat successes.

Overall, the most fruitful period of the trainer's life has been his last few years at South Hatch stables, Epsom. "It was obviously a difficult decision. I had had a lot of success. We were getting a good living and surviving well. But not only was it a challenge to come here, it is also very nice to have someone else picking up the bills."

The men that Akhurst admires most are the other top professionals. "The Stottes,

Cocis and Cumanis of this world may have had better chances but they have certainly grabbed them with both hands and made the most of them. They may have had the best horses but other trainers might not have done so well with them."

On the same note, he added: "The sort of people I admire the most are doctors who spend their lives helping the human race. All of us in racing are just spivs trying to get what we can out of the game."

At present, of the trainer's team of more than 90 horses, roughly three-quarters belong to owners other than Bolton. "When I came here, Mr Bolton had about 60-70 animals and we had to do a lot of sorting out. He has a stud in Ireland and his plan is to call the mares and upgrade the class of stallions used."

Bolton's lavish expenditure and careful planning, though, would count for little without the patient skills of his chosen man, who is truly one of life's great survivors. But what is it that keeps him up and running in such a tough and competitive business at the age of 61?

"I have to drive myself pretty hard," Akhurst says. "I work 49 weeks a year, seven days a week and god knows how many hours. But the more success you have, the more you want. It just tells you to go on and on."



Reg Akhurst and his fancied Sandown contender, Cool Ground, at the trainer's lavish Dorset base

ATHLETICS

Nuttall in race to be a world graduate

By DAVID POWELL

ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

IF JOHN Nuttall's optimism is converted into deed today, his father will be among the first to read about it in the morning papers. Running a newsagent's shop prevents Nuttall senior from being in the morning papers himself, for the 11-year world cross country series, but the portents yesterday, as his son left home in Preston for the race, were encouraging.

"I'm in a good mood," the younger Nuttall said. "When he's in a good mood, he's in form," Nuttall senior noted. "He was in a good mood last Friday." Then what happened? The following day Nuttall was the surprise intruder in the house of luminaries at the Durham international cross country. Eamonn Martin, Paul Davies-Hale and John Ngugi left a window open and Nuttall had a good sniff round how the other half lives before making off with third-place prize-money.

"I am looking to win this weekend, or at least be the first Briton," Nuttall said yesterday. Which, considering the expected presence of Martin, Gary Staines, Adrian Passey and Steve Tunstall, would offer the national selectors a welcome alternative in their deliberations over who should represent Britain in the world championships in Antwerp on March 24. Martin, winner at Durham, said that, with another good run here, he would rest his case. Nuttall, who will study at Iowa State University when the trial takes place and unable to contest it, would do the same. A week ago Nuttall was not even on the case. "I never even thought about running in the world cross country until last Saturday," he said.

"That should have got my name known to those who are picking the team and now they are going to look for a bit of consistency. As long as I am capable of one-offs and if I run badly in Mullus they could disregard me."

Beating the Brits and winning the race may, unlike Durham, not prove one and the same. The provisional Kenyan contingent includes not only Ngugi, the greatest cross country exponent the world has known, but three members of the team which won the world championship last year: William Mutwol, Ibrahim Kinuthia and Boniface Merande, as well as Richard Chelimo, winner of early-season races in Gateshead and Margate.

"When Kenyans race in groups they usually have a feast. They have been world champions for the last five years and their interest in the cross country challenge, a series promoted by the International Amateur Athletic Federation and being held for the first time, gives it credibility."

The United States would be surprised if Nuttall was not included. He was third in their national championship this winter and ran 13min 27.0sec for 5,000 metres in their track season. "I've never had the recognition in Britain for what I have achieved over there," he said. "But when I graduate in May, I'm coming back here to live and would like to concentrate full time on athletics."

RUGBY UNION

Chance for Welsh squad members to stake claim

By DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

JANUARY 19, the opening day of the five nations' championship, will take solid substance after this weekend: the decision-making process in places as far removed as Lanzarote, Cardiff and Edinburgh will impinge on Wales' game with England, and Scotland's in Paris. Moreover the Scottish Rugby Union will determine today which of their officials will referee Wales-England.

The absence in the Canaries of England's leading players takes the sting from various club fixtures - though not that between Lanelli and Rosslyn Park where the Moore brothers, Rupert and Richard, come face to face at scrum half - but the Welsh squad gathers this evening for five days at the National Sports Centre in the knowledge that there was never a time when so many places were up for grabs.

That will add bite to the club programme in Wales, the last playing opportunity before the team is announced on Thursday. Consider the back row alone: last year Phil Davies, Mark and Gary Jones, Ritchie Collins, Mark Percip and Martyn Morris played in the championship. Alan Reynolds and Owain Williams played in Namibia during the summer and Richard Webster re-emerged this season against the Barbarians.

Of those players, Davies has asked not to be considered; Mark Jones has turned professional, as has another international back row forward from Neath, Rowland Phillips; Morris is suspended; Webster injured; Percip dropped out of first-class rugby. Gary Jones has been suffering from a shoulder injury much of the season and Collins does not presently feature in Cardiff's first XV.

It is an enormous hole to fill but three of the players' ambitions to do so will be in action at Rodney Parade this afternoon when Newport play Bridgend; Glen George and Alan Carter for Newport, Owain Williams for Bridgend, all of them national squad members.

Yet the notable feature of the squad is the absence of a genuine open-side flanker in the mould of England's Winterbottom, Robinson or Back. George, Carter and Williams are all blind-side flankers. No. 8s, George was picked on the open side for Wales B against the Netherlands last month but is a blind-side by upbringing and plays like it. It argues that Ron Waldron, the Welsh team manager who is expected at Rodney Parade, intends Wales to play a destructive game.

While the Welsh selectors are making some difficult decisions, their English counterparts in Lanzarote make their final dispositions; their team to play Wales and B team to play Spain will be known tomorrow, while Scotland assess the results of their trial before naming the XV to play France.

At the same time the Scots will choose from their five-man panel of referees - Brian Anderson, Jim Fleming, David Leslie, Ken McCartney and Ray Messon - the match official for Cardiff; they have also to decide who will referee the two games in August between Australia and New Zealand.

"Competitive" rugby in England is provided by the ADT county championship, most of the games snopped off on December 8 having been rescheduled. The games at Nuneaton (Warwickshire v Yorkshire) and Newbury (Berkshire v Cornwall) will determine where the semi-finals are played but the cancellation of Lancashire's match with North Midlands has left Orrell with a major readjustment for the club game with Morley. Orrell's 12 county men will now constitute the first XV, among them Paul Manley, the flanker whose season has been ruined by injury.

The Moon brothers, both scrum halves, avoid playing against each other wherever possible and Richard, the older, had stepped down from Park's game at Stradey Park.

A back injury to Alex Woodhouse, however, means the London club has nowhere else to turn; Park beat Lanelli 31-16 in September but which Moon will rise today remains to be seen.

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Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Claim rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Share Price
1	Sainsbury J (as)	Food	11.50
2	Yale Catto	Chemicals, Plastics	11.50
3	Kent Executive	Industrial L-R	11.50
4	Isobrook Johnson	Building Roads	11.50
5	Yorkshire Water	Water	11.50
6	Good Lot (as)	Newspapers, Pub	11.50
7	Kelly Group	Building Roads	11.50
8	Davy	Building Roads	11.50
9	Ward Group	Building Roads	11.50
10	Outer Allen	Building Roads	11.50
11	Kelley Ind	Industrial E-K	11.50
12	Tarmac (as)	Building Roads	11.50
13	Sidra Water	Water	11.50
14	API	Paper, Print, Adv	11.50
15	Quadrant Group	Leisure	11.50
16	Ryl Rk Soc (as)	Banks, Discount	11.50
17	Ashley Group	Food	11.50
18	Blue Circle (as)	Building Roads	11.50
19	Welsh Water	Water	11.50
20	McIntyre	Property	11.50
21	FR Group	Motors, Aircraft	11.50
22	Unilever	Electricals	11.50
23	Scott & New (as)	Breweries	11.50
24	Harrold Hotels	Hotels, Caterers	11.50
25	Harrold Hotels	Hotels, Caterers	11.50
26	Steeley	Building Roads	11.50
27	McKenna	Industrial L-R	11.50
28	Admiral	Electricals	11.50
29	Amersham	Chemicals, Plastics	11.50
30	Whitby	Building Roads	11.50
31	Kwik-Fit	Motors, Aircraft	11.50
32	Capital Radio	Leisure	11.50
33	Delta	Electricals	11.50
34	Truvelor H (as)	Industrial S-Z	11.50
35	Farnell Elect	Electricals	11.50
36	Yorkshire Chem	Chemicals, Plastics	11.50
37	Tac	Industrial S-Z	11.50
38	Lloyds (as)	Banks, Discount	11.50
39	Unigate (as)	Food	11.50
40	Microgen	Electricals	11.50
41	Weston Water	Water	11.50
42	Ferguson Ind	Paper, Print, Adv	11.50
43	Cadbury-Schwp (as)	Food	11.50
44	De La Rue	Industrial A-D	11.50

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY

There were no valid claims for yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize.

BRITISH FUNDS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
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SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

UNDATED

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

INDEX-LINKED

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Most gains held

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 31. Dealings end January 11. Contango day January 14. Settlement day January 21.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.
Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks.
(VOLUMES: PAGE 31)

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

BREWERIES

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

BUILDING, ROADS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

ELECTRICITY

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

FINANCE, LAND

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

FOODS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

DRAPERY, STORES

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

HOTELS, CATERERS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

E-K

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

L-R

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

S-Z

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

INSURANCE

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

LEISURE

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

MINING

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

OILS, GAS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

PROPERTY

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

SHOES, LEATHER

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

TEXTILES

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
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TOBACCOS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
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TRANSPORT

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

WATER

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1990/91 High Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div
10.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.0	0.00

Portfolio PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND
£4,000
Claims required for +128 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

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Ex dividend

Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield include a special payment h Pre-merger figures a Forecast earnings e Ex other f Ex rights a Ex scrip or share split i Tax-free ... No significant data.

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE FOUND

US dollar
1.9340 (-0.0135)
German mark
2.9107 (+0.0040)
Exchange index
94.2 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1559.5 (+11.0)
FT-SE 100
2126.1 (+8.3)
New York Dow Jones
2582.18 (+8.87)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
24069.18 (+220.47)
Closing Prices ... Page 29Major indices and
major changes Page 31

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 14%
3-month interbank 13 1/4-13 1/2%
3-month eligible bills 13 1/2-13 3/4%
US: Prime Rate 9 1/2%
Federal Funds 7%
3-month Treasury bills 6.47-6.48%
30-year bonds 10 1/2-10 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£ \$1.9340
£ DM2.5107
£ Sfr2.4554
£ FF9.8818
£ Yen250.00
£ Index 94.2
ECU 50.704451
SDR 60.734249
ECU1.419545
SDR1.361936

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$385.10 pm \$387.40
Close \$387.25-387.75 (\$200.25-
200.75)
New York:
Comex \$385.55-390.05

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan) ... \$24.00 bbl (\$25.00)
Denotes latest trading price

CURRENCY RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buys	Sells
Australia \$	2.39	2.44
Canada \$	21.40	21.50
Denmark Kr	6.75	6.85
France FF	2.36	2.40
Germany DM	1.28	1.30
Greece Dr	7.29	7.34
Hong Kong \$	10.28	10.38
Ireland P	3.04	3.08
Italy Lira	325	330
Japan Yen	165	168
Netherlands Gld	1.135	1.145
Norway Kr	2.285	2.305
Portugal Esc	274.50	276.50
South Africa Rd	3.42	3.48
Spain Ptas	166	168
Sweden Kr	11.30	11.40
Switzerland Fr	2.21	2.24
Turkey Lira	5000	5100
USA \$	2.05	2.08
Yugoslavia Dnr	30.00	32.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as
supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different
rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 130.0 (November)

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Calle												Calle												
Series	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Series	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
ASD Lymn	420	75	90	95	4	1	4	8					Prudential	180	18	22	23	26	31						
ASD 460	420	95	98	98	1	1	2	20					(1760)	200	57	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	
ASD 500	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Reed	160	21	20	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	
ASD 510	110	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(174)	160	21	20	19	19	19	19	19	19	19		
ASD 520	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					R172	380	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59		
ASD 530	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(423)	380	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59		
ASD 540	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Stock & New	380	57	52	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	
ASD 550	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(251)	380	57	52	56	56	56	56	56	56	56		
ASD 560	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Thomson	200	35	41	41	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	
ASD 570	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(270)	200	35	41	41	42	42	42	42	42	42		
ASD 580	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Thomson Wv	200	34	7	13	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	
ASD 590	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(270)	200	34	7	13	21	21	21	21	21	21		
ASD 600	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Wp Package	200	5	13	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
ASD 610	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(2290)	2400	240	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
ASD 620	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Reed	2400	240	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD 630	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Forward	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD 640	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(19)	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
ASD 650	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Forward	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD 660	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(19)	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
ASD 670	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	120	14	15	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
ASD 680	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(135)	140	9	14	20	21	21	21	21	21	21		
ASD 690	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(135)	160	26	7	12	27	27	27	27	27	27		
ASD 700	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	330	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 710	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 720	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 730	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 740	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 750	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 760	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 770	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 780	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 790	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 800	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 810	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 820	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 830	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 840	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 850	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 860	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 870	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 880	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 890	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 900	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 910	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 920	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 930	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 940	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 950	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 960	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 970	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 980	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 990	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1000	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1010	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1020	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1030	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1040	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1050	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1060	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1070	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1080	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1090	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1100	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1110	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1120	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1130	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1140	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1150	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1160	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1170	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1180	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1190	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1200	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		
ASD 1210	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					Lucas	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	
ASD 1220	120	4	—	—	—	—	—	—					(373)	380	44	32	45	45	45	45	45	45	45		

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

Britain is the only European country where does not con-

NMC had taken legal advice before making its move, he said. "We have issued a termination of the contract and there is no going back."

Sweet success: Gary Allen toasts a hard-won victory over Birmingham Mint.

By MARTIN WALLER

The announcement won a move for Mint shareholders." IMI now owns more than 55 jobs of Birmingham Mint employees there.

holdings of listed companies greater than 5 per cent to be revealed.

ALPHA STOCKS

SEAG Volume ... 109.06 (-0.58)
USM (Datestream) ...
*Denotes latest trading price

A MEMBER OF IMRO

Index	Value	Daily chg (%)	Yearly chg (%)	Daily chg (¢)	Yearly chg (¢)	Daily chg (US\$)	Yearly chg (US\$)	Index	Value	Daily chg (%)
The World	568.2	0.2	-32.6	0.5	-23.5	-0.3	-19.1	France	576.0	-0.1
(free)	108.7	0.2	-32.6	0.4	-23.4	-0.3	-19.1	Germany	693.5	1.5
EAFE	982.1	0.1	-37.0	0.5	-30.9	-0.4	-24.3	Hong Kong	1932.3	1.5
(free)	101.0	0.1	-37.0	0.4	-31.0	-0.4	-24.4	Italy	258.1	1.9
Europe	991.4	0.4	-22.3	0.5	-19.0	-0.1	-6.7	Japan	\$311.4	-0.2
(free)	128.1	0.4	-21.7	0.3	-19.0	-0.1	-5.9	Netherlands	731.5	-0.5
Nth America	408.3	0.4	-40.6	0.0	-8.5	0.0	-8.5	New Zealand	52.0	0.4
(free)	1051.2	-0.2	-32.5	-0.1	-27.1	-0.7	-18.9	Norway	1077.1	0.5
Nordic	173.0	0.0	-26.5	0.1	-21.1	-0.5	-11.7	(free)	190.2	0.5
Pacific	2174.0	-0.2	-45.2	0.5	-37.9	-0.7	-34.2	Sing/Malay	1452.9	0.8
Far East	3156.7	-0.1	-45.5	0.6	-38.5	-0.6	-34.3	Spain	1160.4	1.2
Australia	221.7	-2.5	-36.2	-3.0	-22.3	-3.0	-23.4	Sweden	1103.4	-0.1
Austria	1275.4	0.2	-14.2	0.6	-8.3	-0.3	3.1	(free)	160.8	-0.3
Belgium	689.5	-1.4	-30.0	-1.1	-26.7	-1.9	-15.9	Switzerland	697.7	-0.4
Canada	422.3	0.7	-29.7	0.2	-15.9	0.3	-15.5	(free)	106.4	-0.4
Denmark	1030.9	0.0	-21.7	0.0	-17.5	-0.5	-6.0	UK	633.4	0.3
Finland	62.7	-1.9	-5.6	-1.8	-41.5	-2.3	-34.7	USA	370.6	0.4
(free)	59.1	0.3	-40.9	0.4	-38.4	-0.2	-29.0			

(¢) Local currency.

[illegible]

New York:	
Dow Jones	2582.18 (+8.67)
S&P Composite	322.08 (+10.18)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	24069.18 (+220.47)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	3046.61 (+41.73)
FT-SE Eurotrack	838.43 (+2.03)
Amsterdam:	
CSX Tendency	80.0 (+0.5)
Sydney	1241.5 (-31.5)
Future DAX	1366.07 (+2.42)
Brussels:	
General	486.43 (-36.05)
Paris: CAC	415.63 (-6.75)
Zurich: SICA Gen	460.1 (+1.1)
London:	
ASX All-Share	1023.21 (+2.43)
FT - 100	1127.40 (+1.01)
FT - 500	157.8 (+2.9)
FT Gold Miners	50.91 (+0.10)
FT Fixed Interest	82.96 (+0.10)
FT Div. Secs	82.96 (+0.10)
Burgins	315.59 (-3.89)
SEAQ Volume	105.06 (-0.52)
USM (Dateline)	
* Denotes latest trading price	

A MEMBER OF IMRO

Now it appears the government is counting the cost of its generosity. Last month the National Audit Office reported that 4.1 million people took the incentives to opt out compared

All this comes at a time when

LINDSAY COOK
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

The incentives encouraged too many people to believe they

A large number of Weekend Money readers have been disappointed to find that application forms were not available this week. Others report that

It is one of the ironies of the savings industry that the best returns are likely to be received by the investors with ailing building societies. Not only are such societies usually the providers of at least one industry-

The C&G is talking to other societies in the South so there could be time to earn a windfall bonus from investing with smaller societies. There may be further distributions should the £10 billion C&G fall to an insurance company or foreign bank.

Barclays, acting for Manweb and South Wales, said 4,500 applications were still being processed because of NatWest's computer problems. NatWest has now sent corrected names and addresses to Lloyds and Barclays.

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

The television advertisements are the Inland Revenue's first foray into this medium and were explained by Francis Maude, financial secretary to the Treasury, as being more cost-effective, at £4 million, than employing fleets of extra staff to pay tax refunds. The advertisements are mainly being shown during the day and early evening

The Inland Revenue will check a sample of the registration forms and the interest paid to savers to ensure there is no abuse of the new system. Those who register as non-

The advertisements all carry the slogan: "If you don't have to pay income tax, you won't have to pay tax on your savings." The extra tax charged on the accounts of taxpayers should be balanced by the payment of interest gross to non-taxpayers. For this to be the case, all non-taxpayers will need to register. Included are 3.25 million children under 16 whose parents or guardians will have to fill out forms on their behalf.



By SARA McCONNELL

The company also cut terminal bonus rates last December and so a man aged 29 saving £30 a month into

1990/91							1991/92							1992/93						
High	Low	Company	Est	Offer	Change	TS	High	Low	Company	Est	Offer	Change	TS	High	Low	Company	Est	Offer	Change	TS
P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E	P/E
7	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	17	10	10	10	10	10	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
10	10	10	10	10																

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 94.2 (day's range 94.1-94.2).

Mid Rates for Jan 4		Close		1 month		3 month	
New York	1.9336-1.9475	1.9395-1.9545	1.10-1.108	2.90-2.920			
London	2.2245-2.2449	2.2245-2.2295	0.65-0.67	1.00-1.035			
Paris	1.9336-1.9500	1.9336-1.9500	0.65-0.67	1.00-1.035			
Brussels	55.70-50.21	59.84-60.40		65-61			
Copenhagen	11.7089-11.8183	11.7611-11.8183	3.34-3.36	9.34-9.36			
Stockholm	1.0500-1.0500	1.0500-1.0500	75-75	75-75			
Helsinki	21.2750-21.2750	21.2750-21.2750	13.14-1.14	9.34-9.36			
Oslo	1.0500-1.0500	1.0500-1.0500	75-75	75-75			
Moscow	20.90-20.91	20.90-20.91	117-107	125-127			
London	125.154-125.153	125.154-125.153	4-5	9-9			
Japan	2183.00-2181.70	2183.70-2191.70	7-8	9-9			
Frankfurt	11.7089-11.8183	11.7611-11.8183	3.34-3.36	9.34-9.36			
Paris	1.9336-1.9500	1.9336-1.9500	0.65-0.67	1.00-1.035			
Brussels	55.70-50.21	59.84-60.40		65-61			
Copenhagen	11.7089-11.8183	11.7611-11.8183	3.34-3.36	9.34-9.36			
Stockholm	1.0500-1.0500	1.0500-1.0500	75-75	75-75			
Helsinki	21.2750-21.2750	21.2750-21.2750	13.14-1.14	9.34-9.36			
Oslo	1.0500-1.0500	1.0500-1.0500	75-75	75-75			
Moscow	20.90-20.91	20.90-20.91	117-107	125-127			
London	125.154-125.153	125.154-125.153	4-5	9-9			
Japan	2183.00-2181.70	2183.70-2191.70	7-8	9-9			
Frankfurt	11.7089-11.8183	11.7611-11.8183	3.34-3.36	9.34-9.36			
Paris	1.9336-1.9500	1.9336-1.9500	0.65-0.67	1.00-1.035			
Brussels	55.70-50.21	59.84-60.40		65-61			
Copenhagen	11.7089-11.8183	11.7611-11.8183	3.34-3.36	9.34-9.36			
Stockholm	1.0500-1.0500	1.0500-1.0500	75-75	75-75			
Helsinki	21.2750-21.2750	21.2750-21.2750	13.14-1.14	9.34-9.36			
Oslo	1.0500-1.0500	1.0500-1.0500	75-75	75-75			
Moscow	20.90-20.91	20.90-20.91	117-107	125-127			
London	125.154-125.153	125.154-125.153	4-5	9-9			
Japan	2183.00-2181.70	2183.70-2191.70	7-8	9-9			
Frankfurt	11.7089-11.8183	11.7611-11.8183	3.34-3.36	9.34-9.36			
Paris	1.9336-1.9500	1.9336-1.9500	0.65-0.67	1.00-1.035			
Brussels	55.70-50.21	59.84-60.40		65-61			
Copenhagen	11.7089-11.8183	11.7611-11.8183	3.34-3.36	9.34-9.36			
Stockholm	1.0500-1.0500	1.0500-1.0500	75-75	75-75			
Helsinki	21.2750-21.2750	21.2750-21.2750	13.14-1.14	9.34-9.36			
Oslo	1.0500-1.0500	1.0500-1.0500	75-75	75-75			
Moscow	20.90-20.91	20.90-20.91	117-107	125-127			
London	125.154-125.153	125.154-125.153	4-5	9-9			
Japan	2183.00-2181.70	2183.70-2191.70	7-8	9-9			
Frankfurt	11.7089-11.8183	11.7611-11.8183	3.34-3.36	9.34-9.36			
Paris	1.9336-1.9500	1.9336-1.9500	0.65-0.67	1.00-1.035			
Brussels							

[illegible][illegible]

Argentina east ^a	11916.6-11941.9	Ireland	1,779.0-1790.5
Australia dollar	2,649.6-2,688.2	Singapore	1,749.5-1,762
Bahrain dollar	n/a	Malaysia	2,088.7-2,095
Brazil cruzeiro	356.73-358.76	Canada	1,202.1-1,205
Cyprus pound	1,689.2-1,692	Denmark	1,500.1-1,510
Philippine peso	30.7-30.77	France	1,500.5-1,500
Chinese renminbi	30.7-30.77	Norway	5,775.5-5,887.5
Hong Kong dollar	15,067.5-15,107.1	Hungary	6,760.5-7,650
India rupee	30.7-30.77	Sweden	1,500.5-1,500
Indonesia rupiah	n/a	Switzerland	2,140.1-2,147
Malaysian ringgit	5,349.5-5,251.1	Netherlands	1,850.2-1,830
Malaysian RM	5,349.5-5,251.1	Spain	1,500.5-1,507
New Zealand dollar	3,277.4-3,284.6	Japan	124.5-134.85
Saudi Arabia riyal	n/a	Italy	1,125.5-1,130.5
South African rand	3,887.3-3,943.3	Belgium (Com)	1,500.5-1,500
S Africa rand (fin)	5,527.6-5,837.0	Hong Kong	7,784.8-7,769.8
S Africa rand (com)	4,821.4-4,828.2	Portugal	1,500.5-1,500
U.S. dollar	1,500.5-1,500	Spain	55.05-55.15

	Perfed	Open	High	Low	Closd	Volume
FT-SE 100		2160.0	2173.0	2160.0	2162.0	2788
Previous open interest: 21801	Mar 91	2160.0	2173.0	2160.0	2162.0	50
	Jun 91	2208.0	2205.5	2206.0	2201.0	50
Three Month Sterling		87.25	87.38	87.12	87.14	84.44
Previous open interest: 11710	Jun 91	88.21	88.22	88.07	88.08	8250
	Sep 91	88.21	88.25	88.07	88.07	2284
Three Month Eurodollar		92.28	92.35	92.13	92.13	9444
Previous open interest: 21088	Jun 91	92.01	92.01	92.03	92.03	1288
Three Month Euro DM		90.88	90.84	90.63	90.67	9147
Previous open interest: 6845	Jun 91	90.68	90.73	90.57	90.59	1997
Three Month Euro Yen		97.06	97.11	97.02	97.07	1186
Previous open interest: 5951	Jun 91					
Long Gills		90.05	90.13	89.16	89.28	21088
Previous open interest: 95580	Mar 91				90.47	0
Japanese Govt Bond		95.25	95.32	95.24	95.35	189
Previous open interest: 520	Mar 91					
German Govt Bond		92.45	92.85	92.92	92.94	30906
Previous open interest: 11389	Jun 91	92.39	92.78	92.39	92.58	983
Three Month ECU		88.68	88.69	88.69	88.63	130
Previous open interest: 7282	Mar 91					

FOF		LONDON OIL REPORTS (JCS-LOR) - London & Bight:	
08-08	SUGAR (FOB)	Headline that there would be an American/Israeli meeting on January 8 caused prices to drop. Trading was restricted because of problems on Nymex.	
09-06	C Cinnamon		
09-06	Jan 203-25.0		
09-05	May 203-25.0		
09-05	Aug 203-25.0		
09-05	Nov 203-25.0		
09-05	Dec 203-25.0		
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09-05	Jun 203-25.0		
09-05	Jul 203-25.0		
09-05	Aug 203-25.0		

By CAROL LEONARD

Edmund Vestey

"At one stage we tried to dip our toes in an awful lot of waters, to do a bit of every-

He professes, naturally enough, to be a fan of family businesses. "For the sort of thing we do there are definite advantages; we can take a longer view than public companies because we don't have to worry what analysts in the

"I spent an awful lot of my childhood on my own, and, in the early years of my business life I was also alone," he says,

But although he is all too aware of the "sense of family" that has so governed his own life, and is delighted that his



Is he aware, though, of the effect such inherited wealth must have had on him? His reply is unclear. "To my mind there is jolly little security in money. Security is in a home. Whether it is a rich home or a poor home does not matter. All that money means is that you can perhaps have some nice pictures on the walls."

True, to a point. But those who grew up in less privileged homes would argue that, to say it, you must be rich indeed.

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